



ARAB TIMES



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Pakistan

Killing wave flares: 24 die

ISLAMABAD, May 30. (Kuna): Unidentified snipers killed 24 more persons today in Karachi where fresh ethnic violence broke out four days ago, according to government controlled news agency APP.

In a report tonight it said that seven people each were shot dead in Kovangi and Orangi colonies, three in Sindhi Muslim Housing Society.

(Details Page 5)

G. Fernandes sacked from Kashmir post

SRINAGAR, India, May 30. (Reuters): India's troubleshooter in Kashmir, George Fernandes, was dismissed today just two months after he was given the job of trying to talk to anti-Indian militants in the strategic state.

A spokesman for President Rama Swamy Venkateswaran said the president had scrapped Fernandes' Kashmiri affairs portfolio at the request of Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh.

Indian politicians on all sides have voiced growing concern about confusion in Delhi's Kashmir strategy since a Muslim revolt erupted in the border state this year, pitching India towards confrontation with neighbouring Pakistan.

Fernandes, who made his political name as a socialist firebrand, stays in the cabinet as railways minister, a post he has held since Singh formed his government last December.

(Continued on Page 5)

Found hanged in the police cell!

By Nawaf Al Hami

SECURITYMEN from Sabah Al Salem Police Station last Monday found a Sri Lankan national hanged in the police cell.

Security sources told a local daily that the dead man who was aged 25 was being held in detention when he apparently hanged himself inside the toilet of his cell.

■ A Filipina housemaid working for a Kuwaiti family had been reported missing from her employer's house for a number of days.

Police who undertook an intensive search found the maid who is aged 27 dead in a deserted house in the Ahmadi area. The cause of death has been attributed to hanging.

Arab leaders condemn US support for Israel

Mubarak's surprise stop-over in Syria to brief Assad

BAGHDAD, May 30. (Agencies): Arab leaders ended their summit in Baghdad today by strongly condemning US support for Israel while ignoring US advice to go beyond previous Arab positions on a Middle East peace settlement.

The three-day summit, called to counter the influx of Soviet Jews into Israel, accused Israel of planning to use the new immigrants to create a greater Israel by killing or deporting Palestinians from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.



HH the Amir back home after attending the emergency Arab summit in Baghdad.

Amir praises Saddam

BAGHDAD, May 30. (Kuna): His Highness the Amir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah today commended the Iraqi leadership and people for hosting the extraordinary Arab summit and said President Saddam Hussein was able to steer it to a successful end.

Speaking on behalf of the GCC states at the closing session, Sheikh Jaber also congratulated the Yemeni people for their reunification and said, "we will support their national steps and wish the Yemeni people and Government all success."

The Amir praised the outcome of the summit and said it was represented in the resolutions and positions reached during the deliberations.

Sheikh Jaber also commended the Arab League secretariat headed by Secretary-General Chadli Klibi for making all preparations for the summit which ensured the success of the conference.

The Amir stressed on the importance and effectiveness of the summit and commended decisions reached in Baghdad.

The Amir sent a cable of thanks to Iraqi president for the generous hospitality extended to HH and his accompanying delegation during their stay in Baghdad.

The Amir returned home today from Baghdad after attending the extraordinary Arab summit.

Israeli civilians were forced off miles of beaches south of Tel Aviv, where they had come on the Shavout holiday or festival of weeks.

Israeli officials accused the PLO of carrying out the attack with the help of Libya at a time when Arab leaders met in a summit in Baghdad, Iraq. They said the goal was to massacre civilians in Tel Aviv hotels.

■ A Palestinian group said it launched a sea attack against Israel today to avenge the mass killing of Arab workers last week.

The summit saw heated wrangling between Egypt and Iraq, the summit host, on what kind of language might persuade Washington to change policies seen by Arabs as biased towards Israel.

Egypt, the only Arab state at peace with Israel, tried to persuade fellow Arabs to include 242 in the communiqué.

Revolutionary leader Muammar Khaddafi of Libya, whose country recorded reservations about 242 in Casablanca, said the results of the Baghdad summit were a great improvement.

"As far as I am concerned, this summit wiped out what was decided at the Casablanca summit, which was embarrassing. It was Arab weakness, Arab capitulation," Khaddafi told the conference's closing session.

The summit saw heated wrangling between Egypt and Iraq, the summit host, on what kind of language might persuade Washington to change policies seen by Arabs as biased towards Israel.

Egypt, the second largest recipient of US aid after Israel, argued against blaming the US administration for all the ills of the Middle East.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, who is very popular among the Arab masses for thumbing his nose at the West and branding Iraq's military might, wanted to recruit other Arabs behind strident anti-American rhetoric, delegates said.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) called for the summit out of deep disappointment at the stalemate in the Middle East peace process and later backed Iraq's positions.

Delegates said the outcome was a compromise but the barbs probably had the edge over the moderates.

"The other side has gained a lot but it could have been worse," a delegate from a conservative country said.

The summit statement deployed "threats against the Arab world" — a reference to Iraq's view that the West is harping on its military industrialisation as the prelude to an attack.

"The conference vigorously condemns these threats, campaigns and hostile measures and affirms its effective solidarity with Iraq," their statement said.

The summit said the Soviet Jewish migration to Israel was an "imprudent violation of human rights and a dangerous threat to Arab national security."

It asked the United Nations to set up an international supervisory mechanism to ensure that

(Continued on Page 2)

Quake rocks Central Europe

BUCHAREST, May 30. (Reuters): At least nine people died as a powerful earthquake rocked Central Europe from the Baltic to the Black Sea and as far south as Yugoslavia today.

Romanian television said eight were killed and 260 injured in Bucharest and towns to the north and east of the capital.

Bulgarian television reported a woman died of shock in a town on the Danube river which divides Bulgaria from Romania.

The Soviet news agency Tass quoted a parliamentarian, Ilmar Bisher, as saying the quake caused serious damage in the Soviet Republic of Moldavia, bordering Romania.

"According to first reports, there was not only destruction but dead and wounded," he said, but gave no details.

Bucharest radio and television reports said the Romanian toll was expected to rise. A witness reported seeing three people dead in a Bucharest street, killed by falling rubble.

(On the other side of the world,

in northern Peru, a 5.8 Richter scale quake struck last night, killing 67 people in the city of

Strong shocks were felt for

Moyohamba on the western fringe of the Amazon jungle, according to reports reaching Lima.

In Bucharest, police and rescue workers said many of the casualties were among people who leapt in panic from the balconies of high-rise flats.

Thousands more fled from offices and homes as tiles and masonry tumbled from rooftops.

"For a few seconds, I thought I could see death, then I ran for my life," said office worker Dana Niculescu, 28.

Strong shocks were felt for

thousands of miles across the Soviet Union, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia and Turkey.

Romanian television said the quake was centred in the hills and sparsely populated Vrancea region northeast of Bucharest.

It said the 45-second quake, at 1.42 pm (1042 GMT), was measured at 6.5 on the open-ended Richter scale.

Scientists in other countries put it as high as seven, giving it the seismic punch of some of the world's mightiest earthquakes.

(Continued on Page 2)

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(Continued on Page 2)

MUSICAL Extravaganza

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**Kennedy strides again**

JOHN F. Kennedy's relatives observed what would have been his 73rd birthday Tuesday by unveiling a nine-foot (2.4-metre) bronze statue that depicts him striding forward.

"My brother would have had a sense of irony if he had seen his statue standing in this hallowed place, at the top of this city on 'the hill,' looking out over the great community he loved," US Sen. Edward M. Kennedy told hundreds who gathered for the ceremony.

The statue, financed by \$175,000 in donations from citizens groups and schoolchildren, stands

outside Boston's gold-domed statehouse overlooking Boston common.

"By showing President Kennedy in the move, this remarkable statue truly represents my brother; it also symbolizes what he stood for and lived for — America in the move," Kennedy said as a light rain began to fall.

Designed by Concord-based sculptor Isabel McIver, the statue shows Kennedy in stride, with one hand tucked in his suit pocket.

The slain president's brother praised the work for its realism. But he joked: "I can tell from Jack's

expression...that he is already feeling uncomfortable in his pedestal. If we could manage to catch his words, he is probably muttering now, 'Tell Teddy to cut his speech in half!'

Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, (extreme left) the former first lady smiled broadly throughout the ceremony, applauding at times but turning solemn as her daughter, Caroline Kennedy Schlossberg (right), removed the dark shroud covering the bronze statue. In the picture at left sitting with Jacqueline is Caroline.

Kennedy's mother, Rose, who turns 100 years old this summer, could not attend. (Reuters wirephoto)

PEOPLE AND PLACES

NEW YORK: Steve Brill spent the 1980s chewing weeds, seeds and leaves in city parks, but he won't swallow his pride — the self-proclaimed man who ate Central Park has quit his park department job.

Since 1981, Brill has led an estimated 15,000 people on walking-dining tours of Central Park, encouraging them to sample the edible flora growing wild there. (AP)

LOS ANGELES: Drivers who scrap their old smog-spewing cars under a plan to cut air pollution in southern California will be able to get a break on loans to buy newer, less polluting models.

Unocal Corp., a Los Angeles-based oil company, has offered to buy 7,000 pre-1971 cars in the Los Angeles area for \$700 each. The old cars, which expect 15 to 30 times more pollutants than new models, will then be scrapped.

First Interstate Bank of California said on Tuesday it will arrange special loans for drivers who sell their cars to Unocal so they can buy cleaner models built in 1982 or later.

The programme offers a reduction of up to one-half percentage point off First Interstate's used car loan rate for cars costing as much as \$7,000. (Reuters)

Fitzgerald honoured

French Minister of Culture Jack Lang (centre) puts his arms around American singer Ella Fitzgerald (left) and French oceanographer Jacques-Yves Cousteau (right) May 29. Fitzgerald received the Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres medal from Lang. (Reuters wirephoto)

CHARLESTON, South Carolina: Hydrogen Jukebox, 21 poems by Beat poet Allen Ginsberg set to music by Philip Glass was spindidly sung but difficult to understand in its staged premiere at the Spoleto Festival.

It's presented as an "acted" song cycle, with much arm moving, walking and rolling around the stage by six splendid singers.

Few words are

understandable, far fewer than in most new operas in English. In an opera, when words aren't understood, the audience can get the gist of what's going on from the plot.

But in Ginsberg's poems of free association, symbolism, fanciful happenings, inside allusions and non sequiturs abound, and one line of poetry often has no relation to the line before. The work desperately needs surtitles. (AP)

SAN FRANCISCO: Edward Louie creator of the fortune cookie folding machine and the popular Risque fortune cookie has died at the age of 69.

Although the cause of death was not immediately available, Louie's son Gregory said his father was tired when he returned from his trip.

Louie invented a machine that automatically inserts the paper fortunes into the cookies as they are folded, saving his family the labour of folding thousands of cookies by hand every day.

Louie was best known, however, for two marketing ploys that were tremendously successful, the giant fortune cookie and the "risque" cookie.

The giant fortune cookie was six inches (15 centimetres) wide and was filled by some with money or jewels. For the thrill seeker, the "risque" cookie contained suggestive fortunes and jokes.

Louie's parents, farmers in a village near Canton, China, emigrated to San Francisco when Louie was only 18 months old.

Set on opening his own fortune cookie company, Louie opened the Lotus Fortune Cookie Co. in Chinatown in 1946. The entire Louie clan worked at lotus, flipping and folding the fortune cookies with chopsticks until he invented the folding machine. (AP)

Bloomers**Dealer wins right to hang**

LONDON: May 30, (AP): An antique dealer yesterday won a court battle giving her the right to hang Queen Victoria's bloomers from her market stall.

Anne Swift, who runs a store in Portobello Road, London's main antique shopping area, successfully appealed against a cleanup ban imposed by Kensington and Chelsea Council.

"Could you say Queen Victoria's undergarments have connotations of dirt and shabbiness?" Swift asked in a London magistrate's court.

Councilors had banned stalls from selling second-hand clothing but had allowed Swift to continue as long as she displayed garments flat. Swift deals exclusively in antique textiles.

Eton marks 'versary**550 years of deep-rooted, unselfconscious 'arrogance'**

ETON, England: May 30, (AP): Eton college long ago disposed off top hats and flogging, but its academic and social prestige continue at its 550th anniversary.

As do its idiosyncrasies. The 550th anniversary of the college's founding by King Henry IV doesn't occur until October 11, but was celebrated yesterday, a school official said that because yesterday was the day before the annual June 4 holiday in honour of King George III

— which Eton chose to celebrate on May 30.

Queen Elizabeth II came for lunch yesterday and praised the school as "second to none," though she sent her three sons to Gordonstoun in Scotland.

The myth of Eton is that the school, nestled in the shadow of Windsor castle, inculcates superiority of mind, grace and social status.

Globetrotter**Duchess of Westminster dies at 80**

BRISTOL, England: May 30, (AP): Sally Grosvenor or the Duchess of Westminster and the globetrotting count of Britain's wealthiest man died today after suffering a stroke, a spokesman at Frenchay hospital in Bristol said. She was 80.

The duchess was taken to Frenchay hospital after collapses yesterday at Hill House, her 17th-century home in western England, said a hospital spokesman. The spokesman was not identified in keeping with British custom.

"I am extremely sorry to say that the duchess died at 2.30 am (0130 GMT)," the spokesman said. "She did not recover from a stroke and I don't think she even regained consciousness."

Wife of the fourth Duke of Westminster who died in 1967, the duchess is the aunt of Gerald Cavendish Grosvenor, the present duke and director of Grosvenor Estate Holdings, which owns substantial property in the posh Mayfair district of central London.

Grosvenor sits on the board of directors for Glaridges Hotel Co the Cutty Sark Society Sun Alliance and the London Insurance Co among others.

The duchess two years ago returned from her third trip up the Amazon river.

She spent five months in South America hunting crocodiles and made numerous, lengthy treks. In 1986, she was slightly injured after her car crashed into a field and caught fire. She was pulled from the car by two farm workers.

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Gaviria to reorganise anti-drug campaign

BOGOTA. May 30. (Agencies): President-elect Cesar Gaviria said yesterday he would reorganise Colombia's intelligence services to make the fight against drug-trafficking more effective.

Gaviria, a strong opponent of Colombia's powerful cocaine barons, spoke to reporters after talks with outgoing President Virgilio Barco on the transition to the new government, which takes office on August 7.

"I propose to redirect the intelligence services, anything to do with criminal organisation," Gaviria said in his first session with reporters since his election Sunday. "The time will come to take decisions on these bodies as doubtless on all other state institutions."

Gaviria, a 43-year-old former interior minister and Liberal Party member, was elected with 47.5 per cent of the vote, twice as much as his nearest challenger, Alvaro Gomez of a dissident conservative movement.

Western diplomats said the vote gave Gaviria a mandate to push on with Barco's tough anti-drug policy, which has plunged Colombia into a bloody war with the cocaine barons.

Gaviria said he hoped drug-traffickers would abandon a bombing campaign which has killed 70 people in the last two months.

"I trust that those practising terrorism will understand that it is a blind policy, a policy of hatred, which was rejected by Colombians at the polls and that it is absolutely pointless," he said.

Gaviria also said he hoped he could reach a peace accord with left-wing guerrilla groups such as the M-19, which laid down its arms last March and took part in the elections. Five other rebel groups have continued to fight.

The army said meanwhile that soldiers had killed two drug-traffickers in eastern province of Guaviare and four rebels of the left-wing People's Liberation Army in the northern province of Norte Díaz.

Three rebels were captured and some weapons seized in Norte de Santander yesterday, the army said.

Local newspapers said Gaviria, who has called for national unity, was likely to offer two ministries to a breakaway conservative movement which came in second in the polls and one ministry each to the leftist M-19 and the social Conservative Party.

Despite Gaviria's clear win, the Liberal Party began a post-mortem of why voter turnout was so low.

Liberal sources said some party members blamed regional party leaders for failing to campaign strongly enough for Gaviria, whose activity was restricted because of assassination threats.

The vote totals released by the national elections office, are based on 95 percent of the ballots counted.

Gaviria plans to create special courts modelled on Italian anti-Mafia tribunals and provide heavy security for judges to hear drug cases involving the powerful cocaine cartels, officials and diplomats said Tuesday.

Gaviria's plan for rebuilding the justice system include creation of separate heavily guarded courts that would try cocaine cases exclusively, aides and diplomats said.

Gaviria also has proposed creation of judicial compounds to protect judges and their families who hear drug cases. The plan, which would include the magistrate's families, is modelled on the Italian system's handling of Mafia cases.

■ **Peru:** Maoist Shining Path rebels assassinated two leaders of Mario Vargas Llosa's Democratic Front coalition in separate attacks yesterday, police said in Lima.

Felix Vega Riquelme, the former governor of Piura, was shot dead in the coastal city located 530 miles (850 kilometres) northwest of Lima, police said.

Hours later, in the Andean city of Cerro de Pasco, Prospero Delson Huaman was shot and killed, police said. Cerro de Pasco is 110 miles (175 kilometres) northeast of Lima. (AP)

■ **Chile:** Former military ruler Augusto Pinochet denies holding any secret police files, although President Patricio Aylwin says he ordered the right-wing general to hand them over.

"What file? I don't have any," Pinochet, who still commands the country's 60,000-member army, told reporters Monday night.

Aylwin summoned Pinochet to the presidential palace Monday afternoon for an hour-long meeting. According to a statement by Aylwin's office, he asked Pinochet for details on the dissolving of the National Information Centre, a feared secret police agency during military rule. (AP)

Portugal wages war on South American narcotics smuggling

NEWS IN BRIEF

America

Man strafes bar with AK-47: A man angered because he couldn't take his drink out of a bar drove by the lounge and opened fire with an automatic rifle early Tuesday, killing a woman and wounding five people, police said in Miami.

The wounded were taken to Jackson Memorial Hospital where they were listed as stable, said police. The trouble started when two men trying to leave the Magic City lounge three blocks west of the downtown section were told it was against the law to carry their guns inside, police said. An argument ensued and the man left.

The two drove by in a car and one opened fire with a fully automatic AK-47 assault rifle, police said. One of the bullets went through a 3-inch (7.6-centimetre) metal door and fatally wounded Tracy L. Black, a 25-year-old customer inside the bar, police said. An argument ensued and the man left.

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Train derails, spills fuel: A freight train derailed near Fairbanks and spilled more than 100,000 gallons (379,000 litres) of jet and diesel fuel, state officials said. Alaska.

The southbound train with more than 50 cars derailed on Monday about 40 miles (64 kilometres) south of Fairbanks, said Arnold Polanschek, vice-president of operations for the state-owned Alaska Railroad Corp.

No one was injured in the derailment and the company still was investigating the cause, Polanschek said.

Railroad cleanup crews and State Department of environmental conservation officials were on the scene, Polanschek said. (AP)

Quake shakes Kodiak Island: A strong earthquake rattled Kodiak Island on Tuesday, but there were no immediate reports of damage or injuries.

The tremor on Tuesday morning was centred about 50 miles (80 kilometres) southwest of Kodiak, and had a preliminary magnitude reading of 5.8 on the Richter scale, said Bill Zitek, a spokesman at the Alaska Tsunami Warning Centre.

"It was felt strongly in Kodiak and at old harbour," Zitek said. "I guess a few things fell off shelves." (AP)

Poindexter convictions upheld: A judge refused Tuesday to overturn John M. Poindexter's five Iran-Contra convictions, ruling that the former national security adviser had presented a weak defence against strong evidence.

US District Judge Harold H. Greene denied defence motions for a judgement of acquittal on the five felony convictions of then-President Ronald Reagan's national security adviser.

"A review of this evidence reveals that proof of defendant's guilt of the charges is compelling," Greene said of the conspiracy obstruction of Congress and false statement convictions that were returned April 7, by the jury in the case. (AP)

Ku Klux Klan appeal rejected: The Supreme Court on Tuesday rejected an appeal by two Ku Klux Klan groups and four men ordered to pay more than \$800,000 for organising a demonstration that turned into a violent attack on civil rights marchers in Georgia.

The court, without comment, let stand a ruling that the punitive damages award did not violate the free-speech rights of the Klan and its sympathisers.

The civil rights demonstration in Forsyth County, Georgia, was led by state legislator Hosea Williams on Jan. 17, 1987, the birthday of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

The Klan staged a counter-demonstration intended to convince blacks to stay out of the county. The Ku Klux Klan is a secret society that has used violence to oppose civil rights. (AP)

Plant begins working: The long-delayed Seabrook nuclear plant has generated nuclear-powered electricity for New England customers for the first time four years after the plant was completed and 14 years after construction began.

Africa

Zambia to hold referendum: President Kenneth Kaunda's ruling party has decided to hold a nationwide referendum on whether to restore a multi-party democracy in the Southern African nation for the first time since 1973.

Kaunda, closing an extraordinary two-day meeting of the ruling United National Independence Party, said Tuesday a referendum would be held to test public support, but he vowed to campaign vigorously against multi-party politics.

"As a party we are saying the people are free to make their choice and the party will respect it," said Kaunda, who has ruled the country since independence in 1964. (UPI)

Somalis seek asylum: A pilot and mechanic diverted their Somali Army transport plane carrying 49 people to this tiny country and demanded political asylum Tuesday, a French news agency reported.

Col Mohamed Sheikh Ibrahim and Mousse Hersi Warsama headed for Djibouti shortly after taking off from Mogadishu, the Somali capital, for a scheduled flight to Hargeisa in northern Somalia, the Agence France-Presse News Agency reported.

The Anteo 26 transport plane carried 43 military and civilian passengers and a flight crew of six, AFP reported. (AP)

Sudan seeks explanation: Sudan said Tuesday it had asked the Ugandan government to explain why it was holding three Sudanese nationals.

Ahmed Kormino, an official at the Sudanese Embassy in Kampala, told Reuters the embassy sent a note to the Foreign Ministry on Friday inquiring about the arrest three weeks ago of Ahmed Al Tom, Ahmed Ibrahim and Khalma Shafi Al Noor.

All the three Sudanese were employed by the Kuwait-based International Islamic Charitable Organisation (IICF) in Kampala. (Reuters)

Teacher-student protest, 3 dead: Police set up posts at strategic points Tuesday to block renewed protests by teachers and students following the deaths of three people during demonstrations earlier in the day in Freetown, Sierra Leone.

Latin America



To be tried by special court

Former deputy economy minister Nikos Athanasiopoulos listens as the president of the Supreme Court rules that he should be tried by a special criminal court on charges of corruption May 29 in Athens. Athanasiopoulos is charged with forging documents and fraud in an illegal grain sale to the European Economic Community. (Reuters wirephoto)

Shuttle Columbia

Launch put off

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida, May 30. (Reuters): Engineers are seeking the cause of a dangerous fuel leak that forced the launch of the shuttle Columbia and it \$148 million cargo space telescopes to be delayed until at least Friday.

Officials said they were hesitant to reschedule blastoff until the source of a hydrogen gas leak, discovered yesterday, had been traced.

"We're definitely not going to launch tomorrow (Thursday)," Lisa Malone, a spokeswoman for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), said.

The delay was the second in three weeks for Columbia, which was to have blasted off at 0038 (0438 GMT) today. The mission was postponed on May 9 for repairs to the shuttle's air conditioning system.

Latin America

Endara to wed June 10: The white herons that grace the inner courtyard of the presidential palace in Panama City may not know a new occupant is about to move in but everyone else in Panama does — the President is about to take a new bride.

On June 10 President Guillermo Endara, an affable, partly 53-year-old widower, will marry Ana Mae Diaz, a 23-year-old law student he met last September while staging a hunger strike to protest against the rule of deposed strongman General Manuel Noriega. (Reuters)

Agreement on 'development zones': The Nicaraguan government has agreed to create more than 20 "development zones" where the estimated 12,000 rebels and their families can settle after being disarmed.

The agreement was signed Tuesday night following talks that resulted earlier in the day between the government and leaders of the rebels, known as Contras.

The negotiations had been suspended Friday after the Contras alleged that 100 civilians and 14 unarmed rebels had been massacred by government troops. A government investigation turned up no evidence to verify the claim. (AP)

Manley doing well: Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley, hospitalised with double pneumonia Tuesday had a good appetite, was breathing better and was giving orders to his aides, a government spokesman said.

"He woke up and started writing a long list of things to do," said Harley Scott, with Manley at the Miami Heart Institute.

Manley, 65, was flown here from Kingston by air ambulance early Monday. He has pneumonia in both lungs, doctors said. (AP)

Stranded tanker threatens: A ship grounded off the coast of Brazil is threatening to break up and spew thousands of tonnes of crude oil and coal across some of the country's most spectacular beaches, state officials said on Tuesday.

The governor of Rio de Janeiro state ordered police to arrest the crew of the Cyprus-registered Mineral Star, who abandoned the ship after it ran aground last month in the Bay of Angra dos Reis, 150 kms (90 miles) from Rio. (Reuters)

22 killed in Peru quake: A strong earthquake collapsed buildings in northern Peru, killing 22 people and injuring dozens of others, according to reports from ham radio operators and disaster relief officials.

The quake occurred at 9:34 pm Tuesday (0234 GMT Wednesday) and registered 5.8 on the open-ended Richter scale, the Peru Geophysical Institute said. (UPI)

100 poisoned by insecticide: Insecticide fumes poisoned 100 people in southwestern Venezuela after an unidentified Colombian man ignited the chemical that was stored in a warehouse, a Health Ministry official said on Tuesday.

Portugal wages war on South American narcotics smuggling

work on tip-offs from around the world. "It's an all-out fight," said Carvalho.

No one knows for sure how much slips through but he and his men are clearly seeing results in trying to keep the amount down.

Last year police seized a record 793 kilos (1,745 pounds) of cocaine and 60 kilos (130 pounds) of heroin — more than twice the amount seized in 1988. Arrests of consumer-traffickers nearly doubled to 2,534.

Earlier this month police seized 208 kilos (460 pounds) of South American cocaine in an international operation.

"They are taking the drug problem very seriously," said one Western diplomat about the Portuguese crackdown.

US to review abortion ruling

WASHINGTON. May 30. (Reuters): By agreeing to review another politically and emotionally charged abortion case, the Supreme Court has ensured that one of the most divisive issues in the United States will remain before it for yet another term.

The justices, in a brief order yesterday, agreed to rule on the controversial government regulations adopted in 1988 when Ronald Reagan was president banning the use of federal funds for abortion counselling and research.

The regulations, kept in place by President George Bush, were challenged in court by abortion proponents for violating a woman's legal right to an abortion and infringing on free speech guarantees.

Kate Michelman, an abortion rights advocate, welcomed the Supreme Court review, saying the regulations "prevent women from obtaining accurate medical advice and necessary health care."

"To say that a doctor cannot even tell a patient that abortion is a legal option not only is a threat to the right of privacy, but also strikes at the heart of our (free-speech) rights," she said in a statement.

The Supreme Court will schedule oral arguments in the case during its new term that begins in October, with a decision expected in 1991.

The case does not directly address the Supreme Court's landmark 1973 ruling that legalised abortions throughout the land and sparked the country's most bitter debate since the Vietnam war.

But legal experts said the case represents part of the High Court's efforts to grapple with the growing efforts by states and the federal government to place major new restrictions on abortions without banning the procedures altogether.

Nearly a year ago, the court's conservative majority, by a 5-4 vote, approved significant

new restrictions in US abortion law, allowing states to ban any public funds for abortions.

Before the scheduled end of the current term in just four weeks, the Supreme Court will rule whether teen-age girls can end their pregnancies without first notifying one or both parents.

This case has been closely watched by both sides in the battle because one-third of the 1.5 million abortions performed in the United States each year involve teenage girls.

Bush administration lawyers, who have defended the law banning public funds for abortion referrals and counselling, sought to minimise the significance of the High Court's action.

They said the Supreme Court was virtually required to decide the issue in view of conflicting lower-court rulings.

Although they asked the justices to hear the case, the administration stopped short of its previous pleadings.



Demonstrator hurt

'Abro-choco' demonstrators lie on the steps of the Parliament building after being ejected by police in Ottawa, May 29. The demonstrators were protesting the passing of the government's new abortion bill, which was passed by 10 votes. (Reuters wirephoto)

Drugs found in car

Feldman grilled

LOS ANGELES. May 30. (Reuters): US teen-age film actor Corey Feldman cried when police found drugs in his car and denied they belonged to him, a police witness said yesterday.

Feldman, 18, a co-star of such films as 'Gremlins,' the 'Burbs,' and 'Stand By Me,' was also nervous when he was ordered out of his car, said police officer Edward Maytorena.

"They're not mine," Maytorena quoted Feldman as saying.

Prosecutors claim two small balloons containing cocaine and 23 small balloons containing heroin were found in Feldman's

41 mutilated corpses discovered in Azad Kashmir

ISLAMABAD, May 30, (Agencies): Authorities in Pakistan-controlled Azad Kashmir on Monday night discovered mutilated bodies of 41 persons from river Jhelum near state capital Muzaffarabad, Radio Pakistan reported this morning.

It said these corpses had flowed from Indian-held Kashmir in river Jhelum into Azad Kashmir.

The state-owned radio said the representatives of refugees who were recently expelled from Indian-con-

trolled Kashmir and were now living in Muzaffarabad had appealed to the international community to take notice of this tyrannical Indian method of killing Kashmiri Muslims.

According to them Kashmiri Muslims were brutally murdered in the occupied Kashmir and their corpses thrown in river Jhelum which flows from Indian Kashmir to Pakistani part of Kashmir (Azad Kashmir).

In Srinagar, Kashmiri Muslims postponed prayer meeting in memory of a

murdered religious leader today after Indian authorities refused to relax a curfew.

Tens of thousands of people from all over the Kashmir valley had gathered in Srinagar, heart of a revolt against Indian rule, to pray for Moulvi Mohammad Farooq.

Farooq, hereditary leader of Kashmiri Muslims, was killed at his home on May 21 by unidentified gunmen. At least 50 people were killed when security forces opened fire on mourners

later that day.

The prayers will be postponed indefinitely, according to announcements from loudspeakers on dozens of Srinagar mosques, a common method of communication during curfews.

About 40,000 of Farooq's followers had arrived in Srinagar to take part in the prayers and were given shelter in mosques. Thousands of others were stranded outside Srinagar because of the curfew, organisers of the meeting

said. Authorities relaxed the curfew in central Srinagar today for the meeting but not in other parts of the city.

Militants, angered by the government's move, imposed their own curfew on the central area.

Girish Saxena, the new governor of Jammu and Kashmir state, appealed to Kashmiris today to co-operate with his administration and asked militants to surrender their arms.

Saxena, a former head of India's

foreign intelligence service, was sworn in as governor on Saturday.

Police said Muslim militants killed two Hindus in incidents in Srinagar.

Police identified the victims as J. Wanchoo and Mahajir Krishan, who were killed because militants suspected them of being police informers.

In another incident, Muslim separatists shot and wounded Hakim Yasin, a former Kashmiri state minister, police said.

Fijians will go to polls in 1991

SUVA, May 30, (AP): Fiji's interim prime minister said today that the country will adopt a new constitution within months and hold elections next year.

"The new constitution will guarantee and protect the fundamental rights and freedoms of every citizens in our country," Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara said in a speech to major donor countries and aid organisations in Geneva.

"We hope to have our new constitution promulgated in another few months and that will prepare the way for general elections to be held in the country next year and for the country to return to parliamentary government."

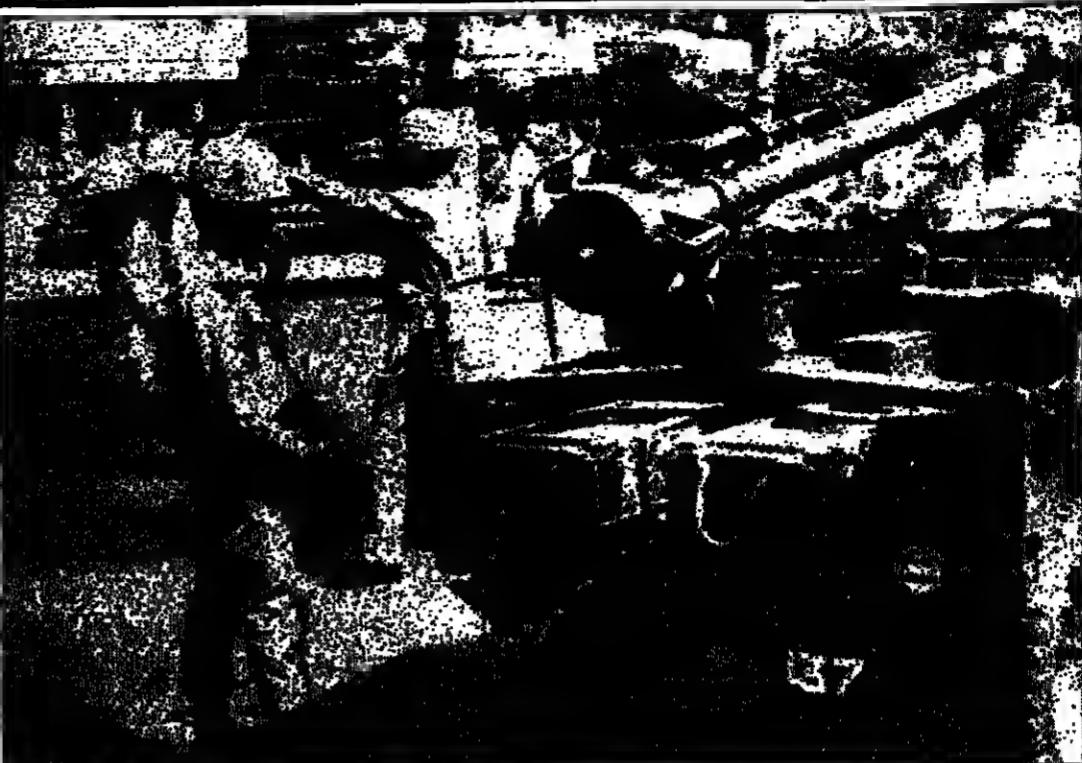
Mara's announcement comes despite criticism of the draft constitution by the Indian-dominated opposition coalition that was ousted from power by two racially inspired coups in 1987.

The coalition leader, Adi Kuini Bavaria, who is currently visiting Australia, has maintained the draft is racist undemocratic and discriminates against ethnic Indians, who were the majority at the time of the coups but now make up just under half of the country's 720,000 people.

Last week, Fiji ordered the Indian embassy here closed after New Delhi vowed to step up an international campaign against the proposed constitution. India has branded the draft "institutionalised racism."

In his speech to the United Nations-sponsored aid talks, Mara said those who staged the military coup had wanted guarantees and protection placed in the constitution for the rights and aspirations of the indigenous Fijian people who settled Fiji over 3,500 years ago.

"The military actions are now history," he said. "A civilian interim government took office in December 1987 with the commitment to return the country to parliamentary government as soon as possible."



29. Eight more people died in violence yesterday. (Reuters wirephoto)

Pakistani army official in Iran

TEHRAN, May 30, (UPI): A top military commander from Pakistan arrived in Iran's southeastern Sistan and Baluchistan Province yesterday to coordinate with the authorities in the war against trafficking in narcotic drugs, the official Islamic Republic News Agency said.

Maj. Gen. Mohammad Khalid, top army commander in Pakistan's Baluchistan province, told

Iraqi forces were in a state of readiness to combat drug trafficking, and he was in Zahedan to discuss co-operation with the Iranian disciplinary forces.

"We have come to Iran to review border issues and discuss co-operation of the disciplinary forces of the two countries against drug smugglers and bandits," Khalid said. He spoke to IRNA at Zahedan,

some 700 miles (1120 km) southeast of Tehran.

Khalid said Pakistan has strengthened its disciplinary forces and would deal decisively with drug traffickers, bandits and counter-revolutionaries, extraditing to Iran any caught crossing over to the Pakistan side of the border.

The Baluchi tribal region straddles the border between Iran and Pakistan, and has recently been the scene of fierce clashes on the Iranian side between security forces and armed men described as drug traffickers and insurgents.

The two countries recently agreed to co-ordinate their operations against drug traffickers in the border areas.



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Confusion over Kashmir

(Continued from Page 1)

Fernandes' attempts to negotiate with militants brought him into conflict with former Kashmiri governor Jagmohan, who quit last week accused by the left of overseeing security force excesses but defended by right-wing Hindus.

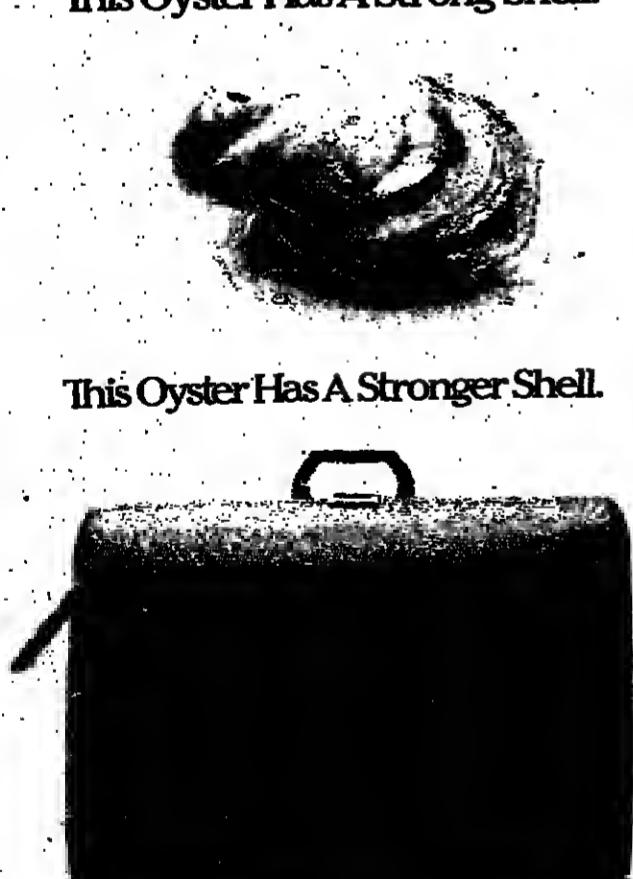
Singh nominated Jagmohan to a seat in the Rajya Sabha (upper house of parliament), where the former governor sought in vain to make his maiden speech today after his opening claim to have saved

Kashmir from secession to Pakistan caused nearly two hours of uproar.

Some 50 members of parliament from Singh's own Janata Dal party demanded yesterday that he sack Home (interior) Minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed. They accused Sayeed of seeking his own political ends in Kashmir and dubbed him 'the biggest obstacle' to peace there.

India's former foreign intelligence chief Girish Saxena has taken over as governor of Kashmir.

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CBS tries to quash subpoena

NEW YORK, May 30, (AP): Lawyers for CBS News yesterday tried to quash a subpoena to have television journalist Diane Sawyer testify at the racketeering trial of Imelda Marcos, offering instead to have a news division employee appear in her place.

US District Judge John Keenan denied the bail plea and two other petitions prompted defence attorneys to accuse the tribunal of attempting to "railroad" the proceedings.

On Wednesday, police said four gunmen believed to be communists ambushed a vehicle carrying Ricardo Apatit, 49, a neighbourhood ward leader, in suburban Paranaque. The gunmen escaped.

A military court today denied a defence petition asking bail for two generals and 19 other officers charged in connection with the December coup attempt against Aquino.

The court's denial of the bail plea and two other petitions prompted defence attorneys to accuse the tribunal of attempting to "railroad" the proceedings.

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The court's denial of the bail plea and

INTERNATIONAL

ARAB TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, MAY 31-JUNE 1, 1990

Fear and chaos in Monrovia

MONROVIA, Liberia, May 30. (AP): Frightened families have been packing clothing, bedding, pots and pans on pickup trucks and fleeing the city amid rumours that rebels are closing in on the capital.

In recent days, the fighting between government troops and the rebels moved to within 35 miles (55 kms) of Monrovia, sparking visas to escape.

"We don't want to be slaughtered," a Liberian of the Mandingo tribe said while waiting at the embassy.

The beleaguered government of President Samuel Doe has been broadcasting appeals for the public to "go about

your normal business" and refrain from panic. But government officials themselves appeared nervous.

Diplomats said Doe, who took power in a 1980 coup, has been moving from one location to another during the night. His presidential jet and an army plane were kept at the ready at an airfield in the capital.

Some government ministers have apparently fled the country. According to news reports and Western officials who met government leaders, the portfolios for foreign affairs, internal affairs and information were being handled by acting ministers.

Diplomats report about 2,000 soldiers have deserted the army — nearly half of the total armed forces before the government began conscription this year.

No authoritative word on the latest fighting in the 5-month-old insurgency was available Tuesday.

But broadcast reports quoted rebel leader Charles Taylor as claiming his troops had been attacking soldiers around the country's main airport, an hour's drive from Monrovia.

Businessmen in the area said the airport remained open, and British Airways said its flights were still arriving.

Doctors in the capital confirmed they have set up a committee and mapped out emergency plans to deal with casualties if the city is attacked.

The military appeared less prepared. Scheiffelin barracks, which would be the last line of defence between the rebels' front line and Monrovia, appeared deserted except for a half-dozen soldiers at a roadblock.

Taxi drivers said lines of vehicles piled high with refugees' belongings were causing a traffic jam at the border with Sierra Leone. The United Nations dispatched a team from Sierra Leone's capital to the border yesterday to assess the situation.

De Klerk puts off trip to States

JOHANNESBURG, May 30. (Reuter): South African President F.W. de Klerk has put off indefinitely his planned meeting next month with President George Bush in the United States to avoid anti-apartheid agitation there and to focus on problems at home.

De Klerk did not want a troubled US trip to spoil the good impression made by his nine-state European tour which ended last week. Foreign Minister Pik Botha said yesterday.

"The president feels that he has had a successful European visit. Why take the risk of marinating or fouling up all the good results by some controversy in the United States?" Botha told state-run television.

A government source said the trip was scuppered by US black leaders including the Rev. Jesse Jackson, who opposed Bush seeing De Klerk before the US leader met African National Congress (ANC) Deputy President Nelson Mandela on June 25.

The visit was now unlikely this year, the source added.

De Klerk said in a statement that he postponed the trip because of controversy and "because certain important matters would require my personal attention during the next few weeks."

"President Bush...stands by his invitation and I will follow it up later, at a time when it can make a more positive contribution to our mutual relations," he added.

De Klerk and Mandela this month began preliminary talks on a new constitution, under which power will be shared between whites and the currently voiceless black majority.

While De Klerk has argued that Western nations should reward his reforms by lifting economic sanctions, Mandela wants them tightened. So far, De Klerk has won only very minor Western concessions to show his electorate.

Mandela, recuperating in a Johannesburg hospital after an unspecified minor operation, has promised to trace De Klerk's footsteps around Europe in June, undoing all his achievements.

The Park Lane Clinic's general manager, Gordon Cohen, said on Tuesday: "Mr Mandela won't be discharged today or tomorrow."

"He is mainly resting before he leaves on Monday (June 4) for Europe." He said, refusing to give details of the operation.

Tom Langley, a spokesman for the right-wing white Conservative Party (CP), said one reason why De Klerk called off the US trip was because he could not match the warmth of the reception Mandela could expect in the United States.

Such an unfavourable comparison could only harm De Klerk among white voters who are already deserting him, Langley said.

According to Botha, the ANC did not orchestrate the controversy surrounding De Klerk's planned visit. "The ANC have not knocked us out of the United States," he said.

In Washington, White House spokesman Marvin Fitzwater said De Klerk had not been asked to postpone the meeting with Bush and was welcome to visit the United States at any convenient future time.

■ European Economic Community development commissioner Manuel Marin expressed concern on Tuesday about reports of political violence in Africa and hinted that future EEC aid might be made conditional on respect for human rights.

"We are concerned by the news we are hearing on the political situation in some countries, and above all in West Africa," Marin said at a news conference after a meeting of development ministers from the 12 EEC member states.

Malaysia hangs eight

Mass execution for drug charges: appeals rejected

TAIPEI, Malaysia, May 30. (Reuter): Eight Hong Kong people convicted of drug trafficking were hanged today after efforts to save them, including an appeal from the British government, failed to sway Malaysian authorities.

The seven men and one woman died in the biggest mass hanging in Malaysia, a predominantly Muslim nation of 17 million people.

Six men were executed in a prison in the northern town of Taiping — which means "eternal peace" in Chinese.

Three were hanged at 3:15 am (1915 GMT on Tuesday) and three at 4:40 am (2040 GMT). A British high commission official said.

The seventh man and the woman — who had fallen in love in jail and had wanted to marry — went to the gallows nearly 200 km (120 miles) away in Kajang prison on the outskirts of Kuala Lumpur at 5:45 am (2145 GMT), lawyer Karpal Singh said.

A large crowd outside the 111-year-old prison in Taiping, which has three sets of gallows, heard the sound of the trapdoors opening twice.

Shortly after, inmates were heard shouting in Chinese, "they are here," a reference to the arrival of the doctor and magistrate who confirmed the deaths.

The bodies of company director Ng Yiu Kwok, 37, waiter Li Chi Ping, 28, and transport worker Chan Yiu Tim, 33, were taken in a hearse for cremation in Taiping, a mining town.

The eight were arrested at Penang International Airport in 1982, the year before Malaysia made the death sentence mandatory for drug traffickers. They were convicted in 1985 of possessing 12.7 kg (28 pounds) of heroin.

"They were very calm when they were taken to the gallows," said Malaysian Salvation Army volunteer Lee Kong Yeo, quoting witnesses inside Taiping prison. "They were dressed in their best attire."

He said doctors operated on Ng and Li, who had converted to Christianity recently, to remove their eyes which they had offered to donate for transplant surgery.

Lee said the six had all asked to be cremated at Penang, but facilities there were limited. Their relatives, who met them for the last time yesterday, are expected to fly back to the British colony with the ashes on Friday.

About 200 onlookers gathered outside Taiping prison, some scribbling down the dates and times of the hanging and licence plates of the hearses to use in a local lottery.

At Kajang prison, the bodies of car dealer Chow Sing, 42, and nightclub waitress Hau Tsui Ling, 32, were loaded into coffins bearing their names and ages.

Chow's lawyer said the pair had planned to marry. Hau was the first foreign woman to hang in Malaysia.

Wong Kwok Chung, Hau's former husband, and a Protestant pastor accompanied the hearse carrying the coffins. The two were given a Christian funeral before being cremated.

Wong, wearing dark glasses, said the ashes were likely to be flown back on Thursday. "They are already dead. There's nothing left to say."

The eight were hanged after two applications to delay the execution were rejected by Malaysian courts yesterday.

Singh said he had not received a reply to his petition for a pardon sent to both Malaysia's King, Sultan Azlan Muhibuddin Shah, and the governor of Penang.

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher had also asked Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad to pardon the eight.

Malaysia has hanged 90 people, including two Australians and a Briton, under laws that make capital punishment mandatory for anyone caught with more than 15 grams (half an ounce) of heroin or 200 grammes (seven ounces) of cannabis.

Malaysia has a serious drug problem among its young people, with more than 130,000 registered addicts. Some experts estimate the real number at five times that figure.

We're both very large and geographically dispersed organisations. We agreed in principle that an alliance is good for the movement, but many differences have to be ironed out," said Hu Ping, chairman of the Chinese Alliance in a telephone interview with Reuters.

■ The State Department said Tuesday it has received numerous reports of torture by Chinese authorities in Tibet, and it called on China to take effective measures to guard against such abuses.

State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tueller said the reports received by US officials coincide with those contained in a study by Asia Watch, a private human rights group.

"It is largely a war about food. Food aid gives the government a powerful weapon for stalling on a settlement," said an aid expert, based in Zimbabwe, who declined to be named.

He said he foresaw "large-scale famine and



Opposition protesters fight against spray from police water cannon on May 29 in Taiwan. (Reuter wirephoto)

'China could face strife'

Call for reforms

BELING, May 30. (Reuter): A Chinese dissident freed from jail this month vowed to continue to speak out and called on his country's communist leaders to adopt political reforms like those pushed by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Zhou Duo also said if China failed to reform it could risk a political explosion on the death of elderly leader Deng Xiaoping.

"I must speak out to remind our leaders to push reforms ahead," the 43-year-old dissident said in an interview late yesterday.

"I want to use my voice for peaceful change to help my country move toward this goal of following Gorbachev."

Zhou was one of four hunger strikers in Beijing's central Tiananmen Square when the army moved in on June 4 to crush a democracy campaign.

He and two of his companions at the time, singer Hou Dejian and former editor Gao Xin, plan to release an open letter to the government calling for the freedom of political prisoners.

The fourth hunger-striker, Liu Xiaobo, is still in jail.

The bespectacled and bookish-looking dissident was an adviser to the Stone Group Computer Company, but it is unclear whether he will get his job back.

Zhou released from prison (shown above) vows to continue to speak out. (Reuter wirephoto)

Stone was accused of aiding the democracy campaign and its chief, Wan Runan, fled China.

Zhou, arrested last June, was one of 211 prisoners released this month. No charges have been filed against him.

During his interrogation, he admitted his protest in Tiananmen Square violated martial law.

"But the objective of our hunger strike was to protest against martial law," he said, adding that he believes his activities were otherwise legal.

Zhou said he was held briefly in a jail outside Beijing and then moved to guest houses around the suburbs. Security was tight, but he was not physically abused or threatened during his 10-month detention.

He was told he was being released because his investigation was over, but he said he believed it was partly to improve the political climate before the anniversary of the armed assault on Beijing.

"It also may have been the result of foreign pressure," he said.

Shortly after the release of this group of prisoners, US President George Bush recommended China retain its most-favoured-nation trade status, maintaining lower tariffs on goods from this country.

A withdrawal of that special treatment could have cost China \$10 billion a year in lost business in the vital American market, according to Chinese officials.

Zhou also accused China's aged leaders of turning back the clock, clamping down on unorthodox views and undermining the opening to the outside world that began in 1978.

"Their policies are a negation of the economic reforms. I look at the newspapers and television now and I feel like it is the Man Tseung era," he said.

China's hardline Marxist leaders have achieved stability for the moment through tough measures against dissent, according to Zhou.

One year after China's bloody Tiananmen Square military crackdown on dissidents, the three main groups opposing the communist government, based in Hong Kong, Paris and Washington, are shot with factional strife and losing public support.

Although all three groups are committed to the promotion of democracy in China, relations among them are poor.

The Washington-based Chinese Alliance for Democracy and the Paris-based Front for Democratic China have discussed joining forces since last October, but a marriage is not imminent.

"We're both very large and geographically dispersed organisations. We agreed in principle that an alliance is good for the movement, but many differences have to be ironed out," said Hu Ping, chairman of the Chinese Alliance in a telephone interview with Reuters.

■ The State Department said Tuesday it has received numerous reports of torture by Chinese authorities in Tibet, and it called on China to take effective measures to guard against such abuses.

State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tueller said the reports received by US officials coincide with those contained in a study by Asia Watch, a private human rights group.

"It is largely a war about food. Food aid gives the government a powerful weapon for stalling on a settlement," said an aid expert, based in Zimbabwe, who declined to be named.

He said he foresaw "large-scale famine and

Taiwan premier names cabinet

TAIPEI, May 30. (AP): The general appointed as premier named a civilian defence minister and two independent politicians to his cabinet today in a bid to allay concerns he will lead Taiwan back to authoritarian rule.

The ruling Nationalist Party's policy-making central standing committee approved the new 25-member cabinet named by Defence Minister Hau Pei-Tsun, who will be sworn in as premier on Friday.

Hau, 70, the nation's only four-star general, was selected by President Lee Teng-Hui this month to head the cabinet and was approved as premier by the national-controlled legislature yesterday.

Opposition politicians and intellectuals have called the appointment of a military strongman to head the cabinet a step backward for democracy and have held several demonstrations against Hau.

But other people have expressed hope the new government can restore social stability in a country experiencing a surge in crime and widespread corruption.

"This is a democratic era and the democratic wagon shall only move forward," Hau told reporters today.

His cabinet includes six new members, three members who are changing portfolio and 15 ministers who are keeping their old positions.

Several key ministers have close ties to Lee, and others are seen as loyal to Hau, which could mean continued infighting over whether the president or premier should wield the most political power.

Among the major cabinet changes, Economics Minister Chen Li-An, 53, will be the new defence minister, a post usually filled by a military man.

Some analysts believe Chen can ensure the powerful military remains under civilian control, but others are sceptical because his family has close ties to the armed forces.

The Nationalists, who have dominated politics on Taiwan since they fled the China Mainland in 1949 after losing a civil war to communist forces, have in recent years gradually eased their authoritarian grip on politics.

The Nationalists lifted martial law and allowed the formation of opposition political parties. In a further move to democratise Taiwan, the party has vowed to retire all its aging members who belong to the legislature and electoral college.

Jakarta, Beijing to resume ties

JAKARTA, May 30. (AP): Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said today that normalisation of relations with China, suspended for 23 years, is possible this year after he visits Beijing in early July.

He told a news conference that an announcement on the resumption of diplomatic relations would depend on his discussions with Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen in Beijing.

"If God permits, normalisation of relations with China could be announced this year."

Donate corneas

Two of eight Hong Kong nationals scheduled to hang at dawn Wednesday for drug trafficking want to donate their corneas to give sight to others.

Their counsel, Karpal Singh, told reporters Tuesday the two were company director Ng Yiu Kwok (left) and waiter Li Chi Ping (right).

A British high commission representative would provide them with the necessary documents for such a donation. Karpal Singh said. (Reuter wirephoto)

Grieving relatives of the executed smuggler Chan Yiu Tim leave the cemetery after paying their respects in Taiping. (Reuter wirephoto)

"It's hard to tell why," said one relief official in the small Central African state of Rwanda.

Rocard, opposition leaders fail to agree on immigration

PARIS, May 30, (UPI): A meeting between the Socialist government and right-wing opposition leaders on the thorny question of immigration ended without agreement on a charter of basic principles and amid charges that the government has no policy on the issue.

Opposition leaders refused to sign a statement of fundamental principles proposed by Prime Minister Michel Rocard dealing with political asylum, the right to rejoin family members already in France, and

modifications to the naturalisation law.

"One problem of foreigners in France is that the government has no policy and in fact does nothing," former prime minister Jacques Chirac said after the yesterday session.

He proposed a proposal and had failed to answer its questions except that the tolerance level on the number of foreigners in France has been reduced.

For his part Rocard insisted that the meet-

ing demonstrated "the unanimous will to control the flow of immigrants and to work at integrating into society those foreigners who are here legally."

The meeting between the government and all of the country's political parties with the exception of the extreme right-wing National Front took place at a time of increasing racial tension in France.

Earlier this month vandals desecrated 34 tombstones and empanelled the body of an 80-year-old man in a Jewish cemetery in the town

of Carpentras in southern France.

The action, which sparked a country-wide shock, profoundly shocked France and brought the festering issues of anti-Semitism, racism and immigration to the forefront of the political debate.

Political analysts said the round table meeting with the opposition was an attempt by the government to isolate the National Front, whose leader, Jean-Marie Le Pen has been widely blamed for creating a climate of racism that led to the vandalism at Carpentras.

Le Pen has been on the defensive since the incident, with several mayors prohibiting National Front meetings in their cities and calls in the press to ignore him and his movement.

The most emotional issue between the government and the opposition is over a proposal to give foreigners the right to vote in local elections. Although the Socialist Party recently agreed to postpone any decision on the subject, the opposition wants the government to formally renounce the idea, some-

thing Rocard has refused to do.

The right is also calling for tougher measures to govern the right of asylum and the right of foreigners to join families legally established in France. It also wants changes in the nationality code to make it more difficult for children born in France of foreign parents to acquire French citizenship.

A petrol bomb was thrown at a motel occupied by refugees early today, the eighth such attack in a week of violence against Sweden's liberal immigration policy.

Valente defied custody ruling

Freed hostage jailed

PARIS, May 30, (AP): Jacqueline Valente, freed in Beirut in April after more than two years as a hostage, was sentenced to two months in prison today for taking two daughters from her ex-husband in defiance of a custody ruling.

Prosecutors had requested only a one-month suspended sentence during the hearing in Toulon, but the presiding judge, Andre Fortin, decided to impose a harsher penalty.

He said Ms Valente, 32, had committed a "premeditated kidnapping" in 1983 and expressed irritation that she refused to answer questions about the mysterious circumstances of her own abduction.

Ms Valente was allowed to remain free pending an appeal and possible medical tests. She was sentenced to six months in prison, four of which were suspended.

The case dates back to August 1983, when Ms Valente refused to take her daughters — Marie-Laure and Virginie — back to their father after one

of their regular visits with her.

No word was heard about Ms Valente and the girls until November 1987, when a Fatah Revolutionary Council — a Libyan-backed Palestinian group led by Abu Nidal — declared it had taken them hostage, along with five Belgians also aboard a yacht in Mediterranean.

The two girls were freed in 1988, and Ms Valente was freed April 10, along with her Belgian companion Fernand Houtekens, and their own daughter, Sophie-Liberte.

Prior to the release, Sophie-Liberte had been widely described as a 2-year-old born in captivity. But relatives and others, after meeting her in person, agreed she was at least 4, leading to press speculation that the yacht was seized much earlier than previously reported.

Newspapers also reported that the hostages had been kept in Libya, despite their claims they were held in Lebanon, and had been abducted by the Libyan Navy, not by Abu Nidal's group.

Japan's illegal labour in panic

TOKYO, May 30, (AP): Thousands of illegal foreign workers are streaming to immigration offices to be deported after false rumours they would be arrested under a new law that goes into effect Friday.

"We're all here because of the immigration law," said Ali Altaf, 22, gesturing to a crowd of more than 1,000 foreign workers who had gathered by 7 a.m. outside a government immigration office in downtown Tokyo.

"We think that if we continue to work after June 1, we may be arrested, may go to prison," said Altaf, a Pakistani who has lived in Japan for 18 months. "We can't work. It's destroying our minds."

Actually, existing law subjects illegal workers to fines of 300,000 yen (\$2,000) or three years in prison, but arrests are rare. Workers who have recently turned themselves in are being deported, since it is easier than punishing them, immigration officials say.

Under the new law, employers or brokers of illegal aliens face sanctions for the first time. They can be imprisoned for up to three years or fined as much as 2 million yen (\$13,300). But an immunity clause means the increased penalties do not apply to employers who hire undocumented workers before Friday.

The new law tightens controls over workers by requiring those holding work visas to obtain certificates that will enable authorities and employers to check their visa status.

The screening of High Island residents is scheduled to begin this summer. While the camp might not have all the troubles found at Whitehead, the police who manage the centre are expecting at least some disturbances.

"I'll never go back to Vietnam," said a 33-year-old man with the last name Tran, who vowed to commit suicide if the government tried to force him back.

"They can force me to go back to Vietnam only if they break my feet and hands," said Nguyen Son Ha, 49, from the northern Vietnamese province of Quang Ninh.

Several Vietnamese expressed concern about the screening process, when immigration officials determine which boat people qualify for refugee status because they fled their homeland out of a well-founded fear of persecution.

A major reason High Island



Disgruntled shopper

A disgruntled shopper remonstrates with workers at a state-run fruit and vegetable market Bucharest on May 29 who have just told him they have nothing to sell. (Reuter wirephoto)

Burma opposition claims more seats in national legislature

RANGOON, May 30, (AP): The opposition National League for Democracy claimed today to have captured 371 out of 485 seats in a parliament that may restore democracy to the country.

League spokesman Kyi Maung said an unofficial tally showed his party leading with at least 371 seats in the national legislature.

The last official count from Sunday's

general election showed the league had won 71 of the 77 seats decided, with other seats going to parties allied with the pro-democracy League and representing the Shan ethnic minority group.

The official count apparently lags behind unofficial tallies because signed certificates must be sent from polling stations nationwide to the election commission in Rangoon.

The official newspaper Working People's Daily said 76 per cent of the eligible voters turned out for the election, Burma's first multi-party polls in 30 years.

The military government, which still rules by martial law decree, has promised to turn power over to the civilians once a new constitution is completed and a strong government is in place.

The election has proved a massive defeat

for the pro-military National Unity Party. ■ Burma's military authorities today expelled a BBC journalist who they said was covering national assembly elections without a proper visa.

The official Working People's Daily newspaper said Lindsey Chanson was illegally reporting news for the British Broadcasting Corporation's Burmese and English-language radio broadcasts.

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INTERNATIONAL

'KGB plot sparked Prague uprising'

LONDON, May 30. (Reuters): Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel said the Soviet KGB secret police were behind a plot to replace Prague's former communist government with a moderate regime.

But the plan hatched by the country's Communist Party members backfired and sparked last year's peaceful revolution, according to the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) programme "Czech-mate: Inside the Revolution" which will be screened today.

Czechoslovak communist figures behind the unrest "were in one way or another controlled by the KGB", Havel told the BBC.

The programme claims plotters engineered student unrest in an attempt to install a government in tune with the policies of reformist Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

But the plan crumbled when an exiled member of Alexander Dubcek's 1968 Prague spring leadership refused to lead a new reformist government.

Within two weeks, mass demonstrations, sparked by the student unrest, led to the downfall of communist rule and the inauguration of leading dissident Vaclav Havel as president.

Milan Lukic, a member of a 10-man government commission set up to investigate the unrest told the BBC: "We cannot reach any other conclusion than that the whole affair had been given the blessing of the Soviet political leadership."

BBC Foreign Affairs editor John Simpson, who wrote the script for the programme, said in an article in the Times that the commission's findings revealed a group of prominent Communist Party figures and the head of the Czechoslovak secret police, General Alois Lorenc, met in secret in late 1988 to hatch a plot to oust Communist Party chief Milos Jakes.

The plan, code-named Operation Wedge, called for the simulation of the death of a student at the hands of the police to turn the people against Jakes.

Secret police officer Ludek Zivcak told the commission he infiltrated the student leadership and on Nov 17, the day of the first protest, led crowds towards Wenceslas Square.

Police and paratroopers broke up the demonstration. "There were 561 casualties and one dead," Simpson said.

In the confusion, Zivcak fell to the ground, his body was covered by a blanket and an unmarked ambulance took him away, according to the commission.

While the protest was taking place, Lorenc was dining at a secret police safe house in Prague with the deputy chairman of the KGB, General Viktor Grushko and Prague KGB chiefs.

Grushko left for Moscow the next morning.

Rumours of the death spread, angering thousands of people who poured out onto the streets in daily demonstrations. But plotters miscalculated the mood of the people and thought they would be satisfied with a return to Dubcek's reform Communism.

Foreign Minister Jiri Diensther has presented Czechoslovakia's vision of continental security to ambassadors of 33 countries in an effort to find "new stability in Europe," a government official said Tuesday.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Lubos Dobrovsky told reporters that Diensther addressed ambassadors representing 31 European countries, the United States and Canada, at talks in Vienna on security and co-operation in Europe.

Poland: Candidates backed by the Solidarity Trade Union held a commanding lead in the first nationwide elections to local councils since World War II, according to unofficial results Tuesday.

Preliminary data from the General Election Commission showed that candidates of the Solidarity-backed Citizens Committee swept 59 of 60 seats in the Baltic port of Gdansk where the union was founded nearly a decade ago.

Romania: The mayor's attempt to sweep University Square free of protesters deteriorated into an argumentative stand-off Wednesday morning.

Shouting "Down with communism" and "get out, get out," about 40 demonstrators stood behind a newly reinforced metal barricade at one end of the Square and urged mayor Dan Predescu to use the trucks and heavy-duty street sweepers he had brought elsewhere to clear garbage in Bucharest.

Soldiers, using sweeping powers granted under a state of siege, poured onto the streets of Port Gentil yesterday to stamp out the rebellion against the 22-year rule of President Omar Bongo.



Yeltsin covers his ears as reporters shout his name from the press gallery at the Russian Federation parliament seconds after he was elected president. (Reuters wirephoto)

Yeltsin bids for coalition

Russian President poses challenge to Gorby

MOSCOW, May 30. (AP): Newly elected Russian President Boris N. Yeltsin sat down with 130 legislators in the Kremlin today to begin forming a coalition government for the largest republic in the Soviet Union.

Although most of the Russian legislators are Communist Party members, they range from radical reformers like Yeltsin to hardliners unhappy with the innovations of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev. Yeltsin, a frequent Gorbachev critic, won his new job yesterday on

the third ballot in the Russian congress. Lawmakers said they believed he gained the last few votes he needed by offering to guarantee a place in his government for other factions.

As President of the Russian congress, a newly created body that is the highest authority in the Russian federation, Yeltsin acts as chief executive of the republic. As the first president of a newly reorganized legislature, he will play a major role in shaping his powers and duties, which as yet are unclear.



Biggest 'newspaper'

The world's biggest 'newspaper' a 30-metre high hot air balloon shaped like a copy of the Financial Times floats over the night sky in Tokyo. May 30 as part of celebrations marking the launching of the international Business Journal in the Japanese market June 5. Behind the balloon is the Tokyo Tower. (Reuters wirephoto)

Briton gets 6 years for killing wife

PAPHOS, Cyprus, May 30. (AP): A court today sentenced 62-year-old retired British Army Captain Raymond Toy to six years in prison for killing his wife, "in a rage of jealousy."

Judge Minos Kormidas said the sentence took account of Toy's poor health and his guilty plea to manslaughter.

Toy's attorney, Panicos Sivitanides, said he will appeal the sentence because Toy "is a dying man."

Toy, who was convicted Monday, suffers from cancer of the prostate, which has spread to his spine. He has been under treatment since his arrest in 1961.

Government spokesman Matthias Gehler said the cabinet had discussed barriers that still confronted Germans when they travelled from East to West and vice versa.

"The government plans to solve this problem by July 2, 1990," he told a news conference.

"All roads which have been cut off by the Berlin Wall for nearly 30 years will be completely cleared."

A Gabonese soldier was killed and 12 civilians were wounded in the clashes, the worst since the country's independence from France in 1960. L'Union said 52 protesters were arrested.

Reuter photographer Adeline Bommar said bursts of automatic gunfire echoed through the deserted city last night. Light armoured vehicles patrolled the streets.

About 1,000 Africans, most of them from Mali, Cameroun and Burkina Faso, fled the city.

Bommar said residents told of attacks on shops owned by foreigners. Several businesses were set

All road links to be restored

Berlin Wall to fall

EAST BERLIN, May 30. (Reuters): Today it will tear down large segments of the Berlin Wall by July 2 to restore all road links severed when the barrier was built in 1961.

Government spokesman Matthias Gehler said the cabinet had discussed barriers that still confronted Germans when they travelled from East to West and vice versa.

"The government plans to solve this problem by July 2, 1990," he told a news conference.

"All roads which have been cut off by the Berlin Wall for nearly 30 years will be completely cleared."

Gabon Army takes control of Port Gentil after violent riots leave 13 dead

LIBREVILLE, May 30. (Reuters): Gabon said today it had quelled the worst anti-government riots in 30 years which rocked the oil capital Port Gentil, but sporadic gunfire persisted overnight.

The official daily L'Union newspaper said the army was in full control of the city after nearly a week of violent protests which threatened to shut the country's vital oil industry.

Soldiers, using sweeping powers granted under a state of siege, poured onto the streets of Port Gentil yesterday to stamp out the rebellion against the 22-year rule of President Omar Bongo.

Nato eyeing mixed forces

BRUSSELS, Belgium, May 30. (AP): The United States and its Nato allies are eyeing the increased use of multinational units as a way of camouflaging Western troops in a unified Germany, analysts say.

Richard Fieldhouse, senior research associate at the Natural Resources Defence Council in Washington, described the push for multinational troops as "an attempt to maintain some sort of Nato forces within Germany."

"All of this comes out of the desire to present stationed forces in a way which is more palatable to Germany and the Soviet Union," says Hans Blumenthal, director of studies at the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London.

The idea is to dilute the US presence in Germany so that it is no longer considered an occupying force and send a political signal that Washington is becoming less involved in German affairs.

Multinational forces got a boost last week when US Defense Secretary Dick Cheney and other defense chiefs of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation called for the alliance to study their use. They said they attached "particular importance" to the task.

Multinational forces — air, sea or ground units carrying the flags of a variety of nations — are nothing new to Nato.

But the fresh attention reflects the alliance's campaign to revamp its military strategy with the diminished threat from the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact.

Moreover, Nato must deal with the prospect of a unified Germany. West Germany belongs to Nato but its eastern neighbour is part of the crumbling Warsaw Pact.

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev has opposed Nato membership for the merged nation, although he recently suggested it could remain in the Western alliance but must withdraw from its integrated military structure.

France and Spain, both Nato allies, are outside the joint military command.

A Gabonese soldier was killed and 12 civilians were wounded in the clashes, the worst since the country's independence from France in 1960. L'Union said 52 protesters were arrested.

Information Minister Jean-Remy Pandy-Bouyiki told reporters today that minor clashes had taken place overnight between troops and protesters.

The protesters are demanding the resignation of Bongo, who imposed a state of siege on Monday in the Atlantic province of Ogooue-Maritime, of which Port Gentil, 150 km (80 miles) southwest of Libreville, is the capital.

The unrest led foreign oil companies with opera-

Gorby sure of German accord

"Impasse with Lithuania will be resolved"

OTTAWA, May 30. (AP): Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev said he is confident the two superpowers will agree on a formula for Germany's reunification without upsetting the balance of power in Europe.

Asked if he was optimistic about reaching a reeminent with the United States over Germany and its membership in Nato, Gorbachev replied: "I am of that. And tell that to the American people."

Gorbachev flew to Canada yesterday for an overnight visit before going on to Washington today for his second summit meeting with US President George Bush.

The Kremlin leader recently warned that insistence on a new, united Germany retaining West Germany's seat in the Atlantic alliance could stifle withdrawal of Soviet troops from Eastern Europe.

The Soviet Union, which lost more than 20 million soldiers and civilians to Nazi forces during World War II, has moved from outright opposition to acceptance of German reunification with assurance that a new German giant would never again pose a military threat.

Gorbachev offered his optimistic assessment during a 45-minute stroll through Ottawa's downtown shopping district after private talks with Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and, separately, with Governor General Ray Hnatyshyn, Queen Elizabeth II's personal representative in Canada.

During his walk, Gorbachev shook hands and talked with people listing police barriers and chanting "Gorby Gorby Gorby" as the crowd burst into cheers when he signed a copy of his book, "Perestroika," for one man.

Gorbachev, accompanied by his wife, Raisa, and at least 20 bodyguards, spoke with another man who asked him about Lithuania, one of three Baltic republics seeking independence.

Gorbachev said he was confident the impasse with Lithuania could be resolved politically through a federalist system.

"Federalism allows outstanding opportunities to advance everything in the field of language, culture, et cetera," Gorbachev said through a translator.

"Look at Canada," he said, referring to a separatist movement in French-speaking Quebec province. "You have so many nationalities... If we show some good will, these problems can be solved."

Gorbachev told reporters he and Mulroney did not discuss Lithuania, but the subject was mentioned in separate talks between Joe Clark, Canada's minister for external relations, and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze. Clark said they hoped "the Lithuanian matter would be resolved by negotiation."

Gorbachev admitted concern over the election of rival Boris Yeltsin to a major job at home and called for Western help to build a new Europe — a move that could ease his mounting problems.

Talking briefly with reporters before visiting Mulroney at his residence, Gorbachev admitted his concern over Yeltsin's victory after three closely-fought ballots.

He claimed that Yeltsin has changed his public position several times in recent days and said: "If he is playing a game then we may be in for difficult times."

Gorbachev took one whiff of Canada's clear air yesterday and immediately suggested it was too good to be free.

He suggested the Canadian government tax it but Mulroney declined the suggestion, saying he had enough troubles already.

President Roh Tae-Woo might come to the United States for talks with visiting Gorbachev



Gorbachev and Raisa stand beside their limousine while visiting a popular pedestrian mall in Ottawa, May 29. (Reuters wirephoto)

Second honeymoon?

Gorbachevs in Canada

OTTAWA, May 30. (Reuters): Are Mikhail and Raisa Gorbachev enjoying second honeymoon on their official trip to Canada or was it just a brief respite in adversity that made them each other's arms?

As if Kremlin leader and his wife arrived in Ottawa yesterday for a 29-hour visit, they looked more like a first couple than ever before.

Come down the steps of Gorbachev's new presidential plane, they were in arm's length. Sitting next to each other during official ceremonies on the airfieldarmac, they whispered to each other conspiratorially.

Visit Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney's residence, Raisa watched her husband with a mixture of concern and admiration. And as they left she grabbed his arm again, almost possessively.

When they went on a walkabout through Ottawa's pristine and pretty streets, the couple again held hands several times and Raisa put a protective arm around her husband when the crush of the crowd became too great.

Gorbachev long ago broke with past Kremlin tradition by having a highly visible wife who goes where he goes and frequently gets her picture on the front page of Pravda.

But they do not often touch in public, and sometimes seem more like individual members of the same official delegation than a married couple. Even when Gorbachev steps off a plane, Raisa follows behind him.

But yesterday, they were the classic man-and-wife political partnership, king the world together after an exhausting week in Moscow which made the West wonder if Gorbachev will have his job for long.

His proposed economic reforms were attacked from all sides, his prime minister threatened to resign and there were bloody clashes involving Soviet soldiers in Armenia.

As he flew to Ottawa, Gorbachev got more bad news when his aides told him one of his fiercest critics, Boris Yeltsin, had been elected President of the Russian federation.

during the next week, a newspaper reported today.

The Pusan Ilbo in the southern port city of Pusan said a Roh-Gorbachev meeting in Washington will follow the Soviet leader's summit with Bush.

Former president Ronald Reagan, who once called the Soviet Union an evil empire and challenged Gorbachev three years ago to tear down the Berlin Wall, will meet the Soviet leader in San Francisco next Monday.

Reagan's wife, Nancy, and Raisa Gorbachev will also attend the breakfast meeting, to be held at the home of the Soviet consul-general in San Francisco, Reagan's office said.

Wallenberg didn't die in 1947: inquiry

NEW YORK, May 30. (AP): A new inquiry into the fate of Raoul Wallenberg has resulted in a report claiming incontrollable evidence that he did not die in 1947 as the Soviet Union claims.

Soviet authorities say Wallenberg, a Swedish diplomat who is credited with saving tens of thousands of Hungarian Jews from the Nazis during World War II died in a Soviet prison two years after he was arrested in Budapest on spying charges.

But that claim is widely disputed. Wallenberg's relatives contend he is still alive. If so, he would be 77 years old.

The 1,200-page report was issued yesterday in Ottawa, Canada, shortly before the arrival of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev. The report incorporates all available evidence, from archives and depositions by "any witness still alive" disputing the Soviet Union's claim, said Irwin Cotler, a law professor at Canada's McGill University who participated in the inquiry.

"I can't claim there's anything new in the report," Cotler said in a telephone interview with the Associated Press.

Palestinian attack on Israeli beaches

Four killed 12 captured

NIZZANIM, May 30, (Agencies): Palestinian commandos in six small speedboats launched a two-pronged assault on Israeli beaches crowded for the Jewish holiday of Shavuot today. Israeli soldiers killed four and captured 12.

No Israelis were reported killed or injured even though one boat came ashore only a few hundred yards from a crowded Mediterranean beachclub.

El Gen. Dan Shomron, the armed forces chief of staff, said the raid was carried out by the Palestine Liberation Front, a PLO faction headed by Abu Al Abbas, who masterminded the hijacking of the Italian cruise liner Achille Lauro in October 1985.



The boat which was used by infiltrators to attack Israel. (Reuter wirephoto)



Freed Reed welcomed
A marching band led the citizens of residents in a homecoming celebration Tuesday to officially welcome back freed hostage Frank Reed from his long captivity in the Middle East. In the picture, Reed (right) and his 9-year-old son Tarek, son of a Malden, Massachusetts. (Reuter wirephoto)

It's bad news for hostages

Hezbollah men dead

BEIRUT, May 30, (Reuter): A senior pro-Iranian leader said today the US report that three Iranians who disappeared in Lebanon were dead was bad news for the American hostages.

Washington said yesterday it had officially informed Tehran that from evidence it had gleaned it had concluded that three Iranians and their Lebanese driver kidnapped by Christian militiamen in 1982 were dead.

"This is a badwill gesture...if the four were killed then the Americans bear the responsibility because they back the Christian militia which kidnapped them...this will not reflect well on the US hostages at all," Hussein Musawi told Reuters.

Musawi is a leader of Hezbollah which is believed by the West to be an umbrella for groups holding 15 Westerners, including six Americans, in Lebanon.

Musawi said that any fresh hostage releases would be delayed because of the American statement.

"If nothing worse happens, the least thing expected is that if things were going in a positive path regarding the hostage problem, then any solution is going to be delayed," Musawi said.

Washington said yesterday President George Bush had ordered a new investigation about the fate of the missing Iranians because of Tehran's concern.

"We have made a major effort at collecting information from

other countries, from international organisations and from private sources that have developed in the region over the years," White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said.

"We have passed this information along to the government of Iran," through Swiss authorities, Fitzwater said. "Essentially our conclusions are the same, that the four individuals they were concerned about were dead."

Musawi said "if this is proved, then the reaction will not be good...the hostage problem is heading towards further complications but nobody can tell where, and what yet. Sure, things are not to the benefit of the hostages."

The Tehran-backed leader said yesterday shortly before the White House statement the issue of the American hostages was frozen because of Washington's policy.

Musawi said "some Islamic groups and officials in Syria and Iran are annoyed by the Americans and their deeds."

Americans Robert Polhill and Frank Reed were released in April in what their captors said was a goodwill gesture.

The ball is in the American court. The Americans should indicate practically that they have understood the initiative that led to the release of the two hostages," he said.

Lates Iran said today that four Iranians missing in Lebanon since 1982, whose case is linked to freedom for Western hostages, are alive.

Tunisian govt plans to triple tourism; revenue threatens Djerba island way of life

DJERBA, Tunisia, May 30, (Reuter): Bulldozers

are hard at work on the island of Djerba as the Tunisian government tries to boost tourist revenue from what glossy brochures describe as the legendary land of the lotus eaters.

But Djerban families say investors from abroad and from the Tunisian mainland are destroying their way of life, ploughing up their ancestral palm groves and damaging the island's fragile environment.

The government plans to build as many hotel beds on the 600 square km (230 square miles) island, in the far southeast of Tunisia, in the next six years as

have been built since tourism began here in the 1950s.

By the turn of the century, Djerba will have 32,000 beds, about one for every four inhabitants, compared with the current 12,000 tourism officials said.

Djerbans, who retain a firm local identity and stronger links with other far-flung Djerban communities than they do with Tunis, fear an influx of mainland labour to service hundreds of thousands of Europeans drawn to Djerba's beaches.

Djerbans have traditionally been traders in exile who come home to retire, herd sheep and bring up

their grandchildren in the pious traditions of their ancestors.

"Now they are going to turn it into another Majorca, just because there's a clique of a dozen or so influential businessmen who stand to profit," said a housewife who lost her house last year when the government expropriated 2,500 hectares (6,000 acres) of prime building land.

The owners have been offered up to one dinar (\$1.1) a square metre (1.1 square yards). They say it is worth between 10 and 50 times as much.

"The island of Djerba has purely and simply been abandoned to the appetites of fly-by-night contractors."

The government argues that development of tourism, which already earns Tunisia about \$1 billion a year in foreign exchange, is a national priority.

Faouzi Al Basly, the tourism commissioner on the island, said the Agence Fonciere Touristique, the government agency which acquires land for hotels, resorted to expropriation only as a last resort because it could not buy the land.

Syrians disarm Shiite rivals

BEIRUT, May 30, (AP): Syrian troops seized arms from rival Shiite Muslim groups today in raids aimed at heading off new clashes between the factions in west Beirut, police reported.

The Syrians also closed militia offices and banned the gunmen from wearing military fatigues, police said.

Large quantities of weapons were seized in buildings and apartments used by the pro-francian Hezbollah, and the Syrian-backed Amal militia in the day-long raids across Beirut's Muslim sector, police reported.

Syrian troops, armed with automatic rifles and rocket-propelled grenade launchers, arrested a number of gunmen who were on the streets with pistols, police said.

Syrian patrols moved around all across the city's Muslim sector.

The soldiers also set up checkpoints in the Wadi Abu Jamil, Bourj Abu-Haidar, Jnah, Bir Hassan and Ouzai districts.

The two factions fought street battles last week in which five people were killed and 42 wounded.

Amal and Hezbollah have been fighting intermittently since May 1987 for dominance of Lebanon's 1.2 million Shiites, the country's largest sect.

At least 1,049 people have been killed and 3,136 wounded in the power struggle.

Beirut's prestigious An-Nahar daily said today the "tough measures designed to head off the recurrence of street gunbattles between Amal and Hezbollah in west Beirut, will continue."

The Syrian crackdown was launched after Syrian Vice-President Abdul-Halim Khaddam held separate talks with the Cyprus-based Middle East Council of Churches.

In an interview with the Associated Press following the meeting with Prince Hassan, Percy said his visit to the region was part of a "mission for just solution in the Middle East."

He called on Israel to negotiate a peace settlement with the PLO and said the organisation is the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

"Israel has to negotiate a settlement to the Middle East conflict with the Palestine Liberation Organisation, the internationally accepted representative of the Palestinian people," Percy said.

At least six people were killed and 45 wounded last week during Amal-Hezbollah fighting.

Mortar and machine-guns fire damaged the Iranian embassy and cultural centre in Beirut, forcing Iranian diplomats to ask for protection from the 40,000 Syrian troops deployed in Lebanon.

The rival factions are not allowed to fight in areas under our control. We have confiscated machine-guns and rockets and we will arrest any armed elements," a Syrian military source told Reuters today.

The Lebanese community in Australia had donated six ambulances vehicles to the civil defence in Lebanon within the framework of donations that cover development, education, and medical fields.

Iran trying to rebuild West ties

NICOSIA, May 30, (Reuter): Iran's pragmatic leaders, paying lip service to the radical legacy of Ayatollah Khomeini, have painstakingly tried to rebuild links with the outside world in the year since his death.

"Things are slowly moving for the better," a Tehran-based Western diplomat said.

"Most officials we meet are optimistically talking about Iran opening up...it's more like Iran is taking three steps forward and two back."

President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani has led the move away from the militant isolationist stance which made Iran an outcast, hoisted by a wave of Islamic zealotry in the eyes of much of the West since its 1979 revolution.

The fervent outbursts and sudden changes of course typical of the Khomeini years have given way to gradual policy shifts on issues such as peace talks with Iraq, Western hostages held by pro-Iranian militants in Lebanon and foreign borrowing.

In a move unthinkable under Khomeini, parliamentary Speaker Mehdi Karroubi announced yesterday that Iran might agree to a meeting between Rafsanjani and Iraqi President Saddam Hussein if Baghdad proved sincere in its peace calls.

But political analysts said that announcing the mere possibility marked a big turn towards realism in a country where Khomeini's injunctions against peace between Islam and "infidels" are still fresh.

The post-Khomeini leadership has preserved his "either-East-or-West" foreign policy principle, with the provision that relations should expand with nearly every country.

The notable exceptions so far have been the United States and Britain, the object of Khomeini's rage in the last months of his life for British author Salman Rushdie's novel "The Satanic Verses."



Syrian troops patrol

A Lebanese boy clad in military fatigues and clutching a plastic automatic machine-gun sits beside Syrian troops as they patrol one of the streets of Muslim West Beirut May 29. (Reuter wirephoto)

Arabs urged to back States

KUWAIT, May 30, (AP): British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd, due to begin a Middle East tour today, says the United States is making a major effort to end the region's conflict and urged Arabs to support the Americans, the Kuwait news agency reported today.

"The attempted seaborne attack came on the third day of an Arab summit in Baghdad in which Arab leaders including Arafat issued verbal attacks on Israel.

Army officers said the attack appeared to have required lengthy planning and began well before the summit was called.

But Foreign Minister Moshe Arens linked the attempted act of terror with student rioters coming from the Arab leaders who have united in opposing the immigration of Soviet Jews to Israel.

"It is not surprising that while the Arab countries declare war on the US' right to immigrate to Israel, the PLO try to assassinate Jews on Israeli soil," he said.

Arens said he hoped the incident would convince the US government of the need to abandon its dialogue with the PLO.

Police ordered the evacuation of thousands of Israelis from a 30-mile (50 kilometre) stretch of beaches south of Tel Aviv. Many other Israelis were ordered to stay at home as soldiers and rifle-toting farmers manned roadblocks.

"It sabotaged to a great extent the life of Israel. There were roadblocks, many people didn't understand what was happening," said police commissioner Yaakov Turner.

The attack came on Shavuot, the festival of weeks, which marks the giving of the Ten Commandments.

One squad landed about 10:15 am (0715 GMT) on a nearly empty stretch of sand only a few hundred yards from a beach club in Nitzanim, 30 kilometres (18 miles) south of Tel Aviv.

A second squad surrendered after being stopped earlier in an undisclosed location north of Tel Aviv.

The attack came on Shavuot, the festival of weeks, which marks the giving of the Ten Commandments.

"Dialogue has produced results in other parts of the world, and it is unacceptable for Israel to refuse to sit down with the Palestinians," he was quoted as saying.

Soviet Jewish emigrants "have no right to settle in the occupied territories and east Jerusalem," Hurd remarked.

"This view is well known to the Israelis and to the Soviet Jews themselves, because you cannot deal with injustice against a certain group by producing injustice to another."

Efforts by US Secretary of State James Baker to arrange peace talks between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation on the future of the territories occupied in 1967 have stalled because of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's hardline stance.

Responding to warming by Jordan's King Hussein in Baghdad that the Middle East is sitting "on a powderkeg" because of large-scale Soviet Jewish emigration to Israel, Hurd said: "We cannot single-handedly relieve King Hussein's anxieties."

He said that when he is in Amman he will "hear first hand from the Jordanian monarch about his views on the region and the safety of his kingdom."

Hurd condemned the Israeli clampdown on 1.7 million Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza who have been staging an uprising against Israeli occupation for the last 30 months as "injustifiable and unsustainable."

Israel estimates 250,000 Soviet Jews will immigrate this year, a two-thirds increase on earlier predictions, a newspaper reported.

The mass circulation Yedioth Ahronoth quoted Interior Minister Yitzhak Peretz as citing the figure during an emergency meeting on Monday on lack of jobs for expected influx.

"The ball is in the American court. The Americans should indicate practically that they have understood the initiative that led to the release of the two hostages," he said.

Lates Iran said today that four Iranians missing in Lebanon since 1982, whose case is linked to freedom for Western hostages, are alive.

Tunisian govt plans to triple tourism; revenue threatens Djerba island way of life

Growing fundamentalism Prince Hassan warns

AMMAN May 30, (AP): Crown Prince Hassan today warned that the current deadlock in the Middle East peace process will lead to a growing tide of Islamic fundamentalism.

In a meeting with a 50-person American and Canadian group led by Charles Percy, former Republican US senator from Illinois, Prince Hassan accused Israel of trying to "Lebanise" the region.

"If no just and comprehensive peace to the Arab-Israeli dispute is reached soon, guaranteeing the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, then extremism and violence will prevail in the region," Hassan said.

He blamed the deadlock on Israel's refusal to negotiate a settlement with Arabs and accused the Jewish state of "continuously attempting to Lebanonise the region and dividing it into weak and buffer states."

Prince Hassan's comments were carried by the official Jordan News Agency, Petra, which said that the prince met the delegation instead of King Hus-

sein who is currently attending an emergency Arab summit in Iraq.

Percy arrived in Jordan on the third leg of a regional tour which has taken him to Egypt and Syria. He was scheduled to start a visit to Israel and the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip on Friday.

The trip was organised by the Washington, D.C.-based Pax World Foundation in co-operation with the Cyprus-based Middle East Council of Churches.

In an interview with the Associated Press following the meeting with Prince Hassan, Percy said his visit to the region was part of a "mission for just solution in the Middle East."

He called on Israel to negotiate a peace settlement with the PLO and said the organisation is the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

"Israel has to negotiate a settlement to the Middle East conflict with the Palestine Liberation Organisation, the internationally accepted representative of the Palestinian people," Percy said.

Kabul agrees to changes: Afghan President Najibullah's government yesterday agreed to change the constitution and urged all rebel groups fighting the Moscow-backed regime to negotiate peace at the Amman assembly.

The Loya Jirga (grand assembly) ended a special two-day session with a call on rebel field commanders and groups based in neighbouring Pakistan and Iran to open talks with the government.

The assembly also agreed constitutional changes proposed by Najibullah a month ago which dropped a reference to the leading role of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and clauses imposing state control over domestic and foreign trade. (Reuters)

Old mine explodes in Amman: A mine dating back to 1970, when the army drove PLO fighters out of Jordan, exploded in Amman today but no one was injured.

Police said it was detonated by a bulldozer digging foundations for a new house near the University of Jordan. A search was going on for any more mines. (Reuters)

Fundamentalists dominate union: The Muslim Brotherhood and its fundamentalist allies made striking gains in elections for a union of teachers working for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (Unrwa) in Jordan.

An agency official told Reuters fundamentalists won seven seats on the union's executive committee. Four leftist candidates won the remaining seats in Tuesday's elections. Twenty-two candidates were voting for the 11 seats. (Reuters)

Fast food dangerous in the long run: official

Call to abide by nutritional specifications

KUWAIT National Committee for World Food Day which is affiliated to the Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources has called on restaurants, cafeterias and snack bars serving fast food to abide by the relevant hygienic and nutritional specifications.

In a seminar organised by the committee, the director of nutrition department at

Kuwait's Ministry of Public Health Dr Fawzia Al Awadi, said that some fast food in the local market constituted negative effects on the human beings health.

She clarified that some distributors of such meals increased the percentage of salt, grease and spices in order to create a specific flavour aiming at the promotion of

such meals which in the long-term may cause side effects.

Meanwhile, the official has called for enlightening consumers about the sound rules of nutrition in order to let them realise the volume of their food needs.

She suggested that each restaurant should set menus which clearly state the nutritional content of each meal including

salt, protein, etc. She added that this type of menu will help consumers select the appropriate meals.

To avoid the negatives of some food distributors, the official has called for imposition of strict control on the preparation process of fast-food in addition to the spread of health awareness among the public.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Premier receives

KUWAIT, May 30 (Kuna): HH the Deputy Amir, Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Salem Al Sabah received at his diwan in Bayan Palace yesterday, Defence Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Saudi Mohammed Al Ossaimi.

He also received the governor of Ahmadi Sheikh Ali Sabah Al Salem and Kuwait's permanent representative to the United Nations in Geneva, Ambassador, Dr Salem Jaber Al Ahmed.

Sheikh Saad also received a number of citizens at the public diwan.

Sane leaves

KUWAIT, May 30, (Kuna): Civil Service Commission's Assistant Undersecretary for Administrative Development Dr Nasser Al Sane left today for Canada and the United States.

Sane told Kuna he would take part in an international conference on administrative sciences in Canada. He said he would present a research to the conference on the Gulf States' policies in qualifying top management executives.

In Washington, Sane said, he would approach a number of American civil service institutions and the US federal government's bodies to discuss all aspects of bilateral co-operation.

Kuwaiti aid

BEIRUT, May 30, (Kuna): More than half a million Lebanese families will benefit from the Kuwaiti assistance, it was announced here yesterday.

According to sources, a programme to distribute the Kuwaiti assistance was agreed upon during a meeting chaired by Lebanese Health Minister Dr Abdullah A. Rasi.

The same sources said that the distribution operations will start immediately after the arrival of all assignments of Kuwaiti assistance and that it will be distributed to 604,536 Lebanese families.

The third batch of the Kuwaiti assistance, which included 58-truck-load of foodstuff products, medicines and houseware, arrived in Lebanon on May 23. However, the fourth and last batch of the Kuwaiti assistance is due to arrive here within the coming few days.

Trade invitation

KUWAIT, May 30, (Kuna): Minister of Trade and Industry Faisal Abdul Razak Al Khalid yesterday received an invitation from the UAE Economic and Trade Minister Saif Al Jarwan to attend the Abu Dhabi First International Fair, scheduled for January 1992.

The invitation was conveyed by the UAE Charge d'Affaires to Kuwait Ismail Obaid during a meeting with Al Khalid here today.

Later, Khalid received Deputy Director of Fairs Department at the UAE Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Ali Al Niyawi, who delivered a similar invitation from the first deputy board chairman of the department, Abdullah Al Muhaizi.

Commercial ads

THE committee empowered to set up the necessary specifications for telephone directories at the Ministry of Communications is currently studying the possibility of inserting commercial advertisements into the new edition of the directory, an official source at Kuwait's Ministry of Communications was quoted as saying.

In an interview with Kuwait News Agency (Kuna), the official said that the committee which was chaired by the assistant undersecretary for subscriber services affairs at the ministry, Khaled Al Houti had decided that publishing of commercial advertisements will contribute in minimising the cost of such a directory and will induce subscribers to purchase it.

Omni message

BAGHDAD, May 30, (Reuter): Yemen has stopped buying arms because unity between the North and South of the country means they are no longer needed, the president of the week-old republic said yesterday.

"We have decided to freeze arms contracts because we are a nation that wants peace and stability," Ali Abdullah Saleh told a news conference in Bagdad.

"We have no intention of becoming an arsenal. Both Yemens were spending millions of dollars to arm themselves against each other," he said.



Rqobah holds banquet



Transportation

GCC to co-ordinate joint airline links

MINISTER of State for Services Affairs Issa Al Mazzedi has been quoted as saying that joint air transport means are likely to be developed to interlink the GCC members before the turn of the current century.

A local daily said that Mazzedi said on the occasion of the 10th GCC anniversary that the goals so far achieved over the last ten years since the birth of the GCC continue to consolidate the march of co-operation and unity among the members.

He said that the GCC is now more able to overcome difficulties, better co-ordinate efforts and bring to fruition all projects that further promote the march of co-operation in line with planned schedules.

He said that the GCC members who look out on the Gulf waters are expected to play a greater role in activating commercial transport by sea, now that the war has subsided, adding that the Gulf waters are now secure for all ships.

He said that the GCC imports by sea have so far cost hundreds of billions of dollars, and that this important waterway will be included in the development projects implemented in the region, due to the large number of beneficiaries.

Meanwhile, the board chairman and managing director of the Kuwait Public Transport Company Abdul Wabah Rashed Al Haroun has said that the experimental operation of the central bus terminal in the country is scheduled to begin on Friday.

He told a local daily that the official inauguration of the central KPTC bus terminal, which occupies a site area of 5,000 square metres, will take place in October, adding that the completion of the main bus terminal currently under construction in Sharq area will be the start of building three main bus terminals in Sharq, Qibla and Mirqab.

He pointed out that the new Sharq terminal, which comprises 22 lanes, will serve 150 to 200 buses and as such has larger operational capacity than the existing Mirqab terminal.

He said that the central bus terminal in Sharq is designed to cater to the basic requirements and in line with international specifications, adding that the total number of buses to be used for public transport is 700, and the number of buses in actual operation will exceed 500, the rest will be placed in stand-by position in anticipation of daily operation and maintenance requirements.

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Nation wants peace

Yemen halts arms purchases

BAGHDAD, May 30, (Reuter): Yemen has stopped buying arms because unity between the North and South of the country means they are no longer needed, the president of the week-old republic said yesterday.

"We have decided to freeze arms contracts because we are a nation that wants peace and stability," Ali Abdullah Saleh told a news conference in Bagdad.

"We have no intention of becoming an arsenal. Both Yemens were spending millions of dollars to arm themselves against each other," he said.

Officials statistics show North Yemen spent \$471 million on defence and security in 1988 — around 27 per cent of total expenditure. Recent figures for the south are not available.

The pro-Western North and Marxist South proclaimed a united Yemen on May 22, six days ahead of the Arab League summit in the Iraqi capital.

Ali Salem Al Beidh, former secretary-general of the ruling Socialist Party in Aden and now Yemeni vice-president, said economic development would be the priority for the new republic.

He said it has passed legislation giving guarantees to Arab and foreign investors, but would also seek to develop its own resources.

Yemen, whose population of about 12 million is the biggest in the Arabian peninsula, produces around 200,000 barrels of oil per day.

Beidh said Soviet military and other advisors in the South would stay. "The United Country is responsible for all agreements and commitments entered into by the previous regime," he said.

Yemen controls much of the eastern Red Sea coast, including the strategic Bab Al-Mandeb Strait in the south.

"We ask all countries bordering the Red Sea to share with us responsibility for maintaining peace there," Beidh said.

Saleh, congratulated by a West German reporter on Yemeni unity, said: "We have lots of expenditure in unity now and if the need arises we are ready to send you our experts."

Saleh acknowledged that Yemeni unity was not universally welcomed either at home or abroad. "There is a price to pay. We have paid it and will continue to pay it," he said without elaborating.

He said he knew of no Arab country which opposed the unification. "But we do not know what happens in corridors because we deal with what we see," he added.

Aluminium best non-oil industry in GCC states

10pc of world supply by 2000

DIRECTOR-GENERAL of the Gulf Organisation for Industrial Consultancy (GOIC), Dr Abdul Rahman Al Jaafari has said that his organisation has estimated that the Gulf states will contribute 10 per cent of the world market needs of aluminium by the year 2000.

He said that the aluminium industry has proved the most successful non-oil industry in the Gulf. He added that the GOIC has estimated that by the year 2000, the Gulf region will become a world centre for this industry and will supply 10 per cent of the world requirements of aluminium.

He said that the success of aluminium industry in the region is attributed mainly to its extensive dependence on energy resources abundantly available in the region. Dr Jaafari stressed that the region heavily depends upon oil as the main resource adding that oil is after all a vanishing natural

resource. For that it becomes necessary to erect alternative resources to preserve the economic and social progress achieved by the help of oil.

Lewis

Jaafari said that the Gulf region is facing unable industrial societies which have the power to move ad manoeuvre to achieve their goals. The Gulf region stands at same level with these countries in one fields like the industries of petrochemicals, oil and aluminium.

He said that the success of aluminium industry in the region is attributed mainly to its extensive dependence on energy resources abundantly available in the region. Dr Jaafari stressed that the region heavily depends upon oil as the main resource adding that oil is after all a vanishing natural

resource. Energy must be supplied to the industry at very competitive prices which is the real advantage of this industry in the Gulf region.

Financing of these industrial projects must be done through offering shares to the public in the Gulf to benefit from the liquidity in the Gulf. He called for the participation of governments in the financing of the latest technology in the aluminium industry, particularly those requiring less manpower and consuming less electric power.

He added that joint ventures could be the best form of aluminium industries companies and that joint agreements should be made for marketing aluminium products.

Rehab course

Bid to optimise process of administration

THE assistant undersecretary for administrative development affairs Dr Naser Al Sane has said that the idea behind administrative development is to optimise the performance of the administrative staff in the government sector in a bid to ensure more effective participation in the national development process.

Meanwhile, Secretary-General of the Arab Interior Ministers Council Dr Nashat urged the Arab leaders, currently meeting in Baghdad, to reach effective resolutions to protect the Arab national security.

He also urged the Arab countries to give special attention to developing and upgrading the airports security systems and to use the technological advancement in their work.

Director of Kuwait airport security Col Hisham Al Dosari said that he will inform the conference of Kuwait's experience and the up-to-date technological equipment it is using in the field of airport security.

He added that he will also benefit from the experience of the Arab countries in this field in order to reach the best method to protect Arab security.

Achievements so far under development has been the disengagement of 80 government agencies sharing similar functions, including a number of policies being followed by government agencies aimed at promoting the Kuwaitisation process based on sound planning, Sane said.



Rawda voters seated in rows at Jasser Al Jasser's diwaniya.

Jasser stands by constitution

By Lima Al Khalefawi and Diana Abou Haidar
Arab Times staff

"I DON'T expect the term of the Interim National Council to be more than one or two years. I promise to discuss shortening the four-year period," said Jasser Al Jasser at an opening discussion at his diwaniya Monday.

Speaking to more than 250 voters, the Rawda candidate said he would resign his post in the upcoming council if the constitution was changed. "I believe that tampering with the constitution is equal to tampering with one's honour. But we have a solemn promise from HH the Amir and HH the Crown Prince that it won't be changed."

Replying to a question from the audience about his withdrawal from the group of 32, Jasser

said that he believed their decision not to participate in the council is "easing their responsibility." "We (the group of 32) had decided to contest the elections but they changed their minds at the last minute."

He added that bunning the elections by some citizens is an "unhealthy phenomenon" that will give a chance to incompetent candidates to fill these positions.

In answer to queries about his campaign issues, Jasser told his guests that priority will be given to increasing housing loans to KD 75,000 and renovation loans to KD 40,000 in addition to developing the social security system.

The 20-minute discussion recorded by Kuwait Television was followed by a dinner.

Infiltrators arrested

Fahd's letter to Hirawi

BEIRUT, May 31 (UPI): Security forces arrested 18 Iranians who tried to infiltrate into Kuwait illegally from the sea, an interior ministry statement said yesterday.

The Iranians were arrested at Falak Island, about 10 miles (16 km) east of Kuwait City. An official statement said the Iranians landed on Kuwait's shore in a boat.

Kuwait authorities frequently arrest Iranian infiltrators seeking illegal entry into Kuwait for work, where opportunities are better than in Iran.

Saudi Arabia, Algeria and Morocco were charged by an Arab summit a year ago to try to settle Lebanon's civil war and Hirawi was an Arab resort of Taif. Implementation of the pact is blocked by Syria's backing. Baghdad supports Christian General Michel Aoun and controls parts of Lebanon's Christian enclave.

Algerian President Chadli Benjedid and Morocco's King Hassan have also stayed away from the summit but they sent representatives.

Private Arab schools begin GSCE exams

Smooth flow ensured

ASSISTANT Undersecretary for Private Education at the Ministry of Education, Dr Yaqoub Al Sharah has stated that the department has completed preparations to hold general secondary certificate examinations of private Arab schools for the current academic year. He added that such preparations were carried out with the co-operation of specialised authorities at the

Ministry of Education.

In an interview with a local daily, he explained that a total of 1593 students at private Arab schools will appear for the secondary certificate examinations this year.

He pointed out that some of the private Arab schools have been selected as

examination centres for students. For this purpose four schools have been selected of which three schools are for girls and one school for boys. The private education department has prepared itself to provide all examinations committees with their requirements in order to ensure smooth work flow.

He stated that examinations for the

intermediate stage started last Monday and for the secondary stage started last Sunday.

Sharah stated that general examinations at foreign schools began during the middle of May according to the educational system followed by these schools.

Kuwait re-export trade slackens

KUWAIT has for long been an important commercial centre in the Gulf particularly for re-export activities before Dubai managed to loom up as a powerful rival.

The outset of the eighties witnessed high-level commercial activities in Kuwait when exports and re-export operations were at their peak. However, the situation started to take a course in the opposite direction as the Iraq-Iran war waged.

A local daily carried out a series of interviews with local Kuwaiti merchants who gave their individual accounts of the heyday of trade in the area, which lost zest in the past few years.

Yousef Salineen said that the Seif Market used to be a great centre for re-export activities; all goods came from Iran and bazaar operations took place in return for local produce.

He said that at that time a shop in the market used to cost KD200,000, and workers used to make as much as KD400 each. He added that Iranian sailors used to anchor close to the market and do their shopping with the least bargaining due to high market quality.

Ali Akbar said that Iranian commercial cruisers used to come in tens during the heyday of the market, when work was at its best with the Iranian re-exporting activities before Dubai emerged as a powerful rival.

He said that now the Iranian trade vessels are few and far between and do their business of carrying out trading activities, but are not only few in number and seldom do any trade in the area following the unloading of their cargoes.

Appeal

Another merchant appealed to the customs authorities to relax the strict constraints imposed on the marine trade activities, in a bid to revive the old trading boom in the area. He pointed out that the Iranian vessels used to pick up most of their purchases from the local market, and this kept the re-exports trade at its best.

Ghalam Khayyat said that with the decrease of the Iranian trade vessels in the wake of the Gulf war, trading activities were reduced to individual businesses on a very limited scale, while the majority of vessels took Dubai as its best station under the prevalent situation in the region, while very few, if any, managed to get as far as the Doha port, where they dumped their cargo and hardly did any business there.

He said that despite the presence of some supply centres in Doha, these businesses are too small to cater to potential bulky orders to the Iranian merchants, and therefore if the authorities could only relax the enforced constraints on the marine trade, things will look up and the market situation will definitely improve.

Forgery case

THE Criminal Court has refrained from ruling against a man and ordered him to submit a written statement pledging good conduct for one year.

The court heard that the man had encountered some difficulty in trying to get his newborn daughter added to the passport of his wife for failure to satisfy enforced regulations.

However, he was approached by an acquaintance of his working at the Immigration and Passports Department who offered to get the job done for him in return for KD 70.

The man agreed and handed over the passport of his wife to the do-gooder who returned with the passport the next day and claimed the fee, after getting the baby added to the passport.

A year passed from the incident and when the defendant tried to arrange for the renewal of his residence permit the department officials told him that only two of his kids were registered in their files.

He was referred to court on grounds of forgery of official documents with the help of an unknown person.



Palestinian hunger strike

A number of Palestinians currently on a hunger strike at the Embassy of the State of Palestine in Kuwait in solidarity with the steadfastness of Palestinians inside the occupied lands will wind up their strike after four days.

The gesture has come in response to a request by the Intifada United National Command in the wake of the second week running of the strike by leading Palestinian figures in occupied Palestine.

The hunger strikers have dispatched an urgent call to the extraordinary Arab summit currently in session in the Iraqi capital requesting support for the Palestinians under the yoke of Israeli occupation authorities and asking for firm measures to put an end to Israeli arrogance and oppressive massacres practised against the Palestinian people.

Government shares

Committee to implement share selling programme

A COMMITTEE will reportedly be set up comprising representatives from the Public Investment Authority, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, and the administration of the Kuwait Stock Market which will be entrusted with the task of implementing the government programme of selling government shares in closed companies, already announced by the Minister of Finance Jassim Mohammad Al Khorafi.

A local daily has collected views on this programme from relevant figures who have described the government programme to turn its shares in 13 different closed companies into the private sector as good and positive.

Some financial figures said that this move is positive in principle but the type of companies offered in sale may not be highly tempting or constituting any economic temptation, and therefore selling them will practically mean nothing to the private sector and form no incentive.

However, the true temptation lies in the selling of giant companies with great productivity, such as the national industries, mobile communication systems and refrigeration.

Some said that the intention by the government to sell these companies may be a good move to dispose of badly performing and low productivity companies which could flourish under the care of the private sector.

Some called for public review of three years of budgetary figures of the companies offered for sale, whereby potential buyers could verify the facts for themselves before attempting to buy these shares and that the sales be arranged in the form of public auctions, not through sealed-envelope biddings.

Meanwhile, another daily reported that the Public Investment Authority will, over the next few days, announce the opening of special financial centres for the 13 companies offered for sale to the private sector and the related selling terms.

The daily said that local investment companies will undertake the selling procedure on behalf of the authority against agreed commissions and the final touches are currently being laid down to agree on the optimum method of sale based on the scale of priorities, as to whether the existing shareholders have the priority of purchase or others.

When queried as to what they were doing, all three said that they were trying to experience a taste of the afterlife.

Razi hospital

3 spinal surgeries performed

KUWAIT, May 30. (Kuna): Doctors at a chiropractic hospital in Kuwait successfully performed three complicated surgeries yesterday on spinal cords of patients.

According to Doctor Taysir Sabri, a chiropractic surgeon at Al Razi Chiropractic Hospital, yesterday's surgeries sought to repair damage to the spinal cords by removing a tumour, in one case, and a pressure, in another case.

He added in a published statement that one of the patients was partially paralysed but should hopefully be able to move his paralysed limbs after removing a tumour from his spinal cord.

The third case, he noted, sought to repair a curved spinal cord, a surgery which has been performed for nearly one hundred patients in Kuwait.

In the past, the patient has to have a back exterior supporter for about nine months after the surgery but due to new medical techniques the patient now can leave the hospital after his spinal cord is repaired in one week and without a back supporter.

About the curved spinal cords, Dr Sabri said that the phenomena is spread among women in Kuwait as studies have shown that one per cent of male students were affected with the problem while about 80 per cent of female students had the problem.

According to the guard, he said that he had observed the trio enter the cemetery around 4.30 pm last Monday. However, when they did not appear after the Maghreb prayers he went looking for them.

Failing to locate them, he reported the incident to the police. Police who arrived on the scene and conducted the search were surprised to find the three reported missing persons well and alive — but lying in a supine position in open graves.

When queried as to what they were doing, all three said that they were trying to experience a taste of the afterlife.

Plan to establish handicraft society

Regulations being formulated

THE Sadu House in Kuwait, is reminiscent of Kuwait's glorious past and is a link to bedouin traditions and heritage. At the same time, it is in keeping with "twentieth-century art".

The first Sadu House was founded by a group of interested individuals in 1979. Sheikha Altaf Salem Al Ali was one of the founder members who believes that to prove their loyalty to the land, citizens must preserve its heritage in the face of rapid modernisation.

With this objective, Sheikha Altaf is endeavouring to establish a handicrafts society for females and Sadu workers in the rest of the Gulf and Arab states and has conducted in-depth research in co-operation with several experts. The study confirms that there are a large number of female textile weavers who are interested in developing these traditions.

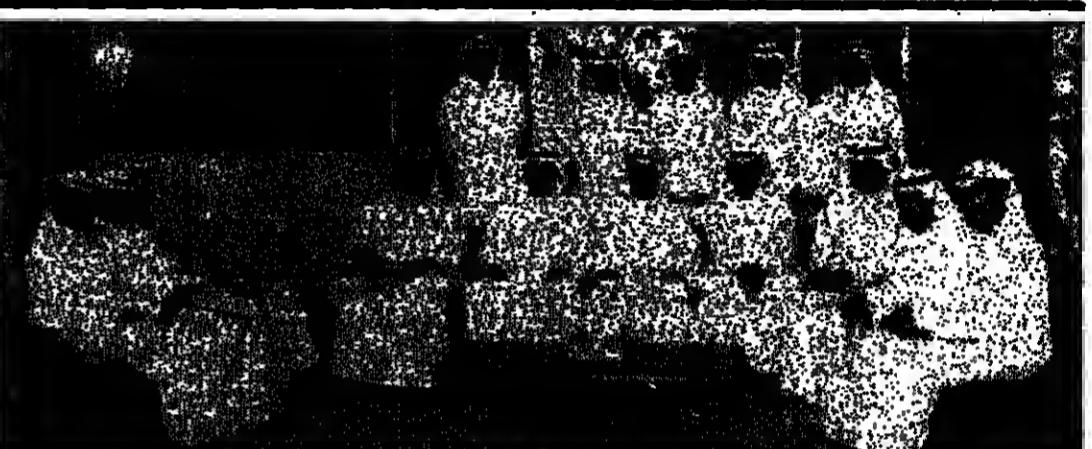
The official said that the Kuwaiti Sadu idea has been praised by the Gulf states and has fed in several activities. Sheikha Altaf said that one of the first results of the symposium was to hold regular handicrafts

markets at Gulf states. The market will represent an opportunity to display works and to resolve any problem which may occur among workers and concerned authorities. She added that the market will also give a chance for competition among professional handicraft workers towards the quality of these works.

Sheikha Altaf pointed out that the Sadu House has a total of 350 female workers who have shown great interest towards establishing a strongly based structure for a wider Sadu society.

The idea here is that the society will have productive centres at all governorates particularly those with high population density.

Sheikha Altaf, the director of the Sadu House, stated that one of her hopes was to establish a museum for desert heritage which she considers a necessity for future generations. She added that plans are also underway to establish handicrafts cooperative society aimed at developing national industry.



Training courses

In the framework of co-operation between Public Authority for Applied Education and Training (Paaet) and the state's ministries two training courses were concluded recently. The two courses were organised by Paaet in favour of the ministries of social affairs and labour and communication.

One of these training courses was held on the theme of "Security and Safety at Youth Centres" which was opened on May 23rd and lasted up to May 28, 1990 and was attended by a number of employees from the Ministry of Social and Labour. The second was held on the theme "Executive Secretaries" during the period from May 5 to May 28, 1990 and was attended by a number of Ministry of Communication employees.

GTD declines car registration for stateless

THE General Traffic Department has declined to register more than one car owned by civilians or military personnel falling in the category of stateless persons.

This step comes within the framework of measures in response to a decision issued by the department director-general Brigadier Abdul Hameed Haji Abdul Raheem, stipulating that stateless persons are not permitted to register in names of military personnel more than one vehicle.

The decision banned registration of vehicles in the name of stateless civilians, however those who already have more than one vehicle registered in their names will be able to apply for annual renewal without being liable to pressure to sell or give up these vehicles.

Sources at the department said that the renewal of drivers' licences held by stateless civilians will not be possible except with the minister's approval or with official approval of the director-general.

NORMAL summer weather with light to moderate northerly to north-easterly wind.
State of sea: slight to moderate
High water: 11.00 am, 4.30 pm
Low water: 11.00 am, 12.00 pm
Sunrise: 4.49 am
Sunset: 6.42 pm
Maximum temperatures recorded:
Kuwait: 45°C 113°F
Al Ahsa: 45°C 106°F
Dhahran: 41°C 106°F
Minimum temperatures recorded:
Kuwait: 26°C 79°F
Al Ahsa: 31°C 88°F
Dhahran: 28°C 82°F
Maximum temperatures expected:
Kuwait: 45°C 113°F
Al Ahsa: 41°C 106°F
Dhahran: 42°C 108°F
Minimum humidity recorded:
Kuwait: 65% 65°F
Al Ahsa: 65% 65°F
Dhahran: 31% 65°F



Kuwait's test-tube babies

Amongst the numerous breakthroughs in the field of medical science none has been heralded as enthusiastically as the "era of the test tube baby".

In this respect, Kuwait in its pioneering spirit of upholding the family spirit and its commitment to imparting optimum medical assistance to its population, has been in the forefront in applying the test-tube experiment in the region.

A local daily interviewed a couple of families of the early test-tube babies to be born in Kuwait.

The first (above left) girl was born in Kuwait on September 26, 1988 and named Delal. Her mother said that the baby is very sociable, demonstrates a high-level of intelligence and is very attached to her father.



Delal's father said that the required analysis and check-ups preceding the operation, revealed a potentially high percentage of success. Progress was smooth, he added, due to the co-operation of the clinic staff and their attention to details. He confided that his wife and he have decided to use the same technique once more and his wife has begun taking necessary medication and is undergoing periodic check-ups.

Another test-tube baby is Bashar, (right) who was born December last year. The father said that some people have total misconceptions of a test-tube baby and called on authorities to undertake an educative campaign to explain the basic facts of this issue.

Bashar's mother said that it took her a number of interviews with clinic doctors before she was able to learn that it was possible in her case to conceive through the test-tube technique.

Salon for sale

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EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

DEBT is a bottomless sea — Thomas Carlyle, Scottish essayist-historian (1795-1881).

Rebels' plight ANC shuns ex-members

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, (UPI): Eight blacks once joined the African National Congress to fight for the liberation of South Africa but were thrown into foreign wars instead and later imprisoned for asking why. They have returned home, shunned as traitors to the cause.

By their own accounts, they were the lucky ones.

Hundreds of others were killed in the wars in Zimbabwe and Angola, tortured as spies of Pretoria's white government, or lined up before a firing squad and executed in one of the darkest chapters of the ANC's history.

Seven men and one woman involved in a 1984 uprising over the ANC strategies flew home last month after being formally expelled from the ANC last year. Their decision to return followed five years of detention, tight restrictions imposed by seniors in the movement and what they said were vain attempts to air their grievances.

Reception

Returning at a time when the ANC is reveling in forcing the minority government to the negotiating table for power-sharing talks, the eight have received a chilly, if not threatening reception.

Despite last month's admission by ANC leader Nelson Mandela that dissidents indeed had been tortured, the eight weathered a barrage of hostile and accusatory questions from disbelieving reporters at a recent news conference.

Had they decided to form a support group for relatives of other missing ANC cadres before or after meeting state security officials who detained them for 21 days for interrogation on their return?

What links had they with the dreaded Askaris, the former ANC cadres-turned-spies under the council of police intelligence? What has the government promised them? What is their relationship with an ambitious conservative black church leader accused of attempting to discredit the liberation movement?

Rodney Twala, who left South Africa in 1975 and received military training in the Soviet Union, spoke on behalf of the group. He denied any sinister motives and said the eight remained loyal to the ANC though they opposed many of its senior leaders.

He confirmed allegations first raised by ANC dissidents, presently hiding in Kenya, who were involved in the same uprising.

Those in Kenya have publicly called on Mandela to order a commission of inquiry into "continuing" ANC torture. Yet senior ANC officials insist the matter is closed and that those responsible for human rights violations "have been properly dealt with."

"Some of us left the country in 1975 and 1976 only to find that the conditions of exile were rather tough. But we were ready for them. We thought that we were going to get out training, come back and fight for our liberation," Twala said.

"But this was not to be."

Two ANC detachments, he said, were sent into what was then Rhodesia in 1979 to fight not only the forces of the minority regime of Ian Smith but also the guerrillas or Robert Mugabe, ironically now president of Zimbabwe and one of apartheid's bitterest foes.

Lost

"We lost many comrades who fell in those hushes of Rhodesia," he said. Opposition to the fighting was "smothered," he said, and dissidents were taken to an ANC camp known as Quattro in northern Angola.

Cadres in the Angola camps grew restless. Far from the front line of the war for liberation in South Africa, they demanded the ANC leadership in the Zambian capital of Lusaka call a conference to address the movement's strategies.

The reply, said Twala, was truth and facts are not always correct."

Then came a decision to deploy up to 4,000 cadres alongside the Cuban-backed government in Luanda, Angola, against the US—and South African-financed battle-hardened Unita guerrillas of Jonas Savimbi. ANC detachments were said to have suffered heavy losses.

"They always said we were in Angola as the reserve of the army," said Twala, narrating the seeds of the uprising at ANC camps in Angola.

"Any front has got a rear. Now the rear was thrown against Unita. At first there was that excitement ... but then we became sober because Unita retaliated."

With the help of Angolan troops, dissidents in the camps were disarmed, igniting a mutiny that took several days to put down.

At the end, in May 1984, seven dissidents from one camp were lined up before a firing squad and shot, another mutineer, Sipho Pungulu, told reporters.

Mutiny leaders, including Twala, were briefly held in a state security prison in Luanda, where two colleagues starved to death, then returned to Quattro where two others died in nuclear circumstances.

Interrogation

A senior member of the ANC, Steve Ishwete, acknowledged in April that there had been "excesses" during the interrogation of the mutineers. But he defended the ANC's efforts to put down the revolt.

"No army can play with mutineers," he said. "We had to suppress the mutiny with all the force at our disposal, just as any army would do when faced with a mutiny."

Four years after the mutiny, in 1988, the dissidents were transferred in an ANC camp Tanzania, where they were remained until their expulsion from the ANC in 1989. From there they fled to Dar es Salaam and sought assistance from the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

During last year's visit by ANC leaders from South Africa released from imprisonment, among them Walter Sisulu, the mutineers were detained by Tanzanian security, Twala said, and released only two days after the delegation had left.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1643 — Royalist plotters are arrested in London.
- 1793 — Reign of terror begins in French Revolution.
- 1850 — Universal suffrage in France is abolished.
- 1889 — Flood at Johnstown Pennsylvania (USA), takes more than 2,000 lives.
- 1902 — Peace of Vereeniging ends Boer War, in which British casualties numbered 5,774 killed and 16,000 deaths from disease, against 4,000 Boers killed in action.
- 1910 — Union of South Africa is founded.
- 1924 — China recognizes Soviet Union.
- 1937 — German fleet bombs Almeria, Spain, in reprisal for loyalist air attacks on its battleship Deutschesland.
- 1954 — State of emergency is declared in Uganda, Uganda.
- 1961 — South Africa becomes independent republic outside British Commonwealth with C.R. Swart as president.
- 1962 — Adolf Eichmann, World War II Nazi Gestapo chief, is executed by hanging after Israeli court rejects appeal.
- 1966 — Court in the Congo sentences former premier Evariste Kimba and three others to death on charges of plotting to overthrow President Joseph Mobutu.
- 1970 — Earthquake hits Peru, leaving more than 66,000 dead, 20,000 missing and 200,000 injured.
- 1973 — US Senate votes to cut off all funds for US bombing operations in Cambodia.
- 1976 — Indonesia completes takeover of East Timor.
- 1987 — Shiite Muslim guerrillas fight Israeli-backed militiamen in Israel's self-proclaimed "security zone."
- 1989 — Israeli warplanes attack targets on outskirts of Sidon in Lebanon.

US defence secretary relieved**Nato reduces military guard**

WASHINGTON, (Reuters): Perhaps US Defence Secretary Dick Cheney best typified Nato's relief this week as the Western alliance began to reduce its expensive military guard against Moscow for the first time in 40 years.

"A year ago, I had to sell three per cent," he said, recalling Washington's repeated, unpopular calls for member states to raise military spending by three per cent a year.

"I'm much more comfortable this year," Cheney added with a grin on Monday while en route to Brussels, knowing that on Tuesday defence ministers would scrap that grating budget demand in response to the fall of the Warsaw Pact.

Slashed

By last night, the ministers' defence planning committee had also slashed expensive and unpopular war games and announced that the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation would begin slightly reducing its battle readiness on July 1.

"He isn't the only one who is more comfortable these days," a senior Nato official said on hearing the Cheney remark. "And to think it was Gorbachev who came over the hill and put us out of our financial misery."

Nato defence ministers ended a two-day meeting in Brussels on Wednesday with a pledge to look again at strategies formed in the 1960s, when the Warsaw Pact was seen as a major threat to the West and its values.

The review is to be finished by the end of the year. A conference of Nato leaders in London in July is expected to agree on more guidelines.

Spurned

With the Soviet military spurned in Eastern Europe and getting fewer roubles at home, private defence analysts praised the Nato move to relax its military posture for the first time since it was formed in 1949.

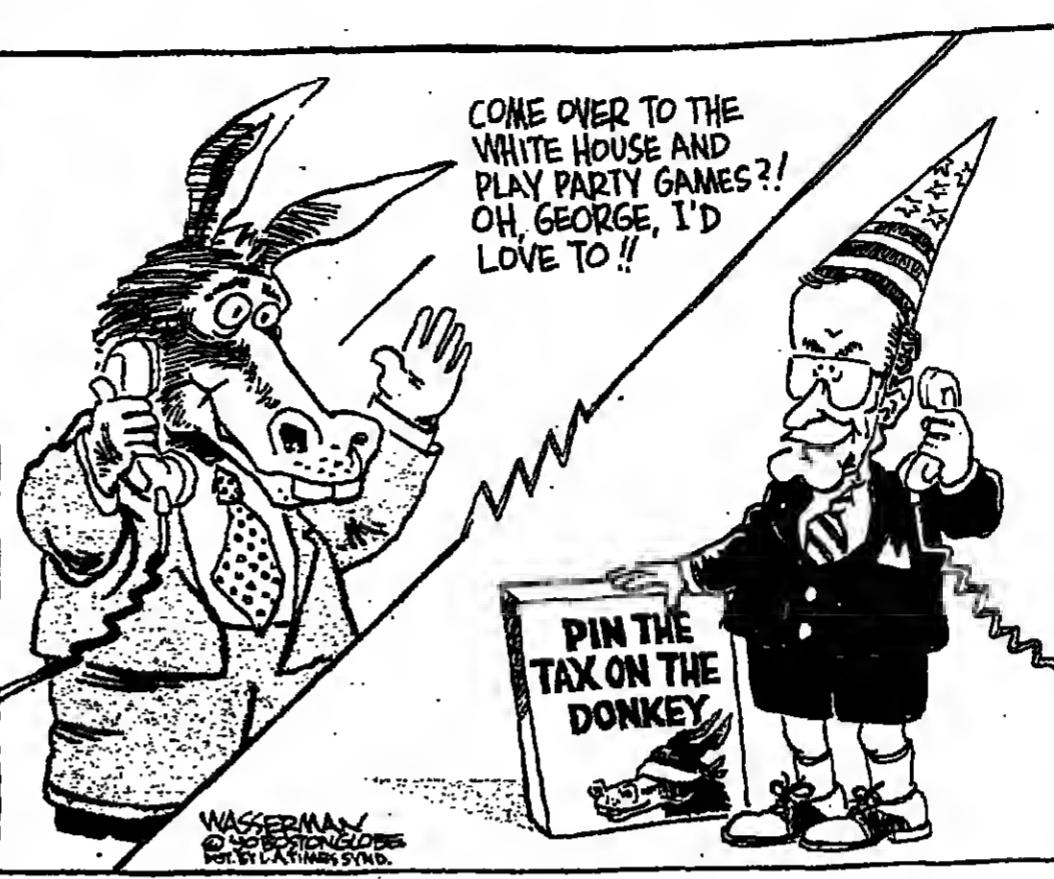
"The cold war is history. We don't want to rip up the security blanket yet, but it's time to store guns and count dividends," said former US Assistant Defence Secretary Lawrence Korb of the Brookings Institution, a Washington think tank.

Analyst Jim Blackwell of the Centre for Strategic and International Studies think tank said Nato's move towards multi-national units was a good idea.

"They don't cost any less, but they signal togetherness with a lot of different flags in allied countries," he said.

Though some relaxation will take place, alliance officials say many key elements of strategy will be retained because of the threat of instability in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

Cheney and other senior US defence officials



appeared happy but low-key as they arrived home late yesterday.

Cheney and assistant defence secretary Stephen Hadley cautioned that the easing in military readiness would come in three phases and that its outcome would rest in large measure of Vienna negotiations on balancing Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE).

In July, Hadley said, a helicopter unit, for example, might be allowed to increase from four to 48 hours the time it must be ready to fight. That is a far cry from changing the current requirement that the United States be prepared to move 10 divisions to Europe within the 10 days of the breakout of a war,

said Cheney. But Cheney, an acknowledge sceptic of Soviet intentions, also relented with perhaps the most optimistic public statement to come out of the Pentagon since the Berlin Wall began to crumble last year.

He said Nato forces would now have more warning time for any Soviet attack on Western Europe.

"It's a judgement call. But I would be prepared to argue that we have now moved, as a result of the developments last year, from a situation in which we were talking about a matter of days to a situation in which we are talking about a matter of at least a few months," he said.

PRAGUE, (Reuters): Czechoslovakia's Civic Forum movement acted as the catalyst for the overthrow of communist rule six months ago.

Now, despite its leaders' protestations that it is not a political party as such, it is poised to win the country's first free elections for 44 years. Unlike other similar groupings, such as East Germany's New Forum, which helped bring down a communist regime but then faded before democratic elections, Civic Forum has managed to hold on to the political initiative and convert it into an almost certain victory at the polls on June 8 and 9.

"We're doing quite well, we're learning much faster than the others," Civic Forum's leader Jan Urban told Reuters in an interview.

With opinion polls constantly putting Civic Forum at the head of voters' preferences nationwide between 20 and 25 per cent, but up to almost 50 per cent in a stronghold like Prague — Urban sits at the centre of Czechoslovakia's most popular political organisation by far.

Together with its sister grouping Public Against Violence, which operates in Slovakia while Civic Forum works in Bohemia and Moravia, the movement can expect to win twice as many parliamentary seats as any other group and dominate post-election negotiations on the formation of a new government.

"It's quite clear that we're on an up, we want to keep it, that way," Urban said.

Among techniques used to retain people's attention and keep Civic Forum — which was created to campaign for civil rights — at centre stage are repeated warnings of "dirty tricks" campaigns to discredit Czechoslovakia's moves towards full democracy.

"We feel the only way our political opponents from the old regime could gain some ground would be to destabilise the situation by disinformation and by discrediting the results of the elections," said Urban.

"We just cannot give them the chance."

The Central Electoral Commission organises the polling and admits problems in drawing up accurate lists of voters, but it is confident of averting any serious possibility of fraud.

Urban himself is not standing in the general election but directs and supervises an increasingly professional, young and enthusiastic body of paid staff and volunteers.

"All of us are learning because this is the first election campaign in our lives ... we're very pleased at how active people have started to be," he said.

"At the beginning of Civic Forum, we dreamed about having active, competent people throughout the country. Now it's clear we have them."

Civic Forum was founded by dissident playwright Vaclav Havel and others last November, the day after a brutal police attack on a student demonstration.

It brought together a wide range of opposition groups and provided the focus for a real challenge to the country's hardline communists.

Within two weeks, the Communist Party had been forced to give up its monopoly on power.

Another two weeks later, Civic Forum nominees — mostly former dissidents, demagogues and persecuted for years — became senior ministers in a government not dominated by communists, and by the end of the year Havel was president of Czechoslovakia.

Television coverage of recent presidential visits to various parts of Czechoslovakia has brought protests from other parties that reporting Havel gives Civic Forum unfair publicity.

The Electoral Commission upheld complaints about a rally to celebrate the six-month anniversary of the start of freedom and democracy.

It was broadcast live — with speeches from the balcony of Civic Forum's headquarters, bedecked with election banners, and with Havel declaring he was going to vote for Civic Forum candidates on June 8.

Civic Forum has always insisted it is a wide-ranging political movement rather than a party, and cannot be pinned to any specific point on the political spectrum.

"Like Solidarity in Poland, it's impossible to describe Civic Forum in Czechoslovakia as left or right with the traditional Western democratic vocabulary," Urban said.

He sees the movement disbanding and starting afresh after the elections, becoming a sort of nation-wide advice centre and campaigning vehicle.

"I would want to fire everyone after the elections and start a nucleus of really professional managers able to organise things," Urban explained.

People with difficulties in starting private enterprises, or restructuring agricultural co-operatives, or problems with local government or investment, could turn to their Civic Forum branch for professional advice.

"If you have a problem, ask Civic Forum," said Urban. "We would have a small, flexible structure without the remnants of the old party ideology we're fed up with."

In the meantime, Urban is clear that Civic Forum is supported mostly by young people, educated people and those from large towns and it needs to do more to ensure victory in the general election.

"Now we have to concentrate on the more emotional message and attract older people, those in rural areas and non-educated people," he said.

QUOTE ME

"Intellectual passion drives our stability." — Leonardo da Vinci.

"Where the willingness is great, the difficulties cannot be great." — Italian Renaissance statesman, Niccolo Machiavelli.

"How could we go on without Russia? If it goes in another direction? If some other republic emerges, its right to secede from the union, it would interfere upon the interests of other republics, but we would survive. But the USSR is unthinkable without Russia." Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

"Discipline is the soul of an army. It makes small numbers formidable, procure success to the weak, and esteem to all." — George Washington.

Kashmir dispute

SIR: This refers to the letter from Abdulla Dalvi in your paper dated July 26th 1990. We are obliged to Dalvi for drawing our attention to an inconvenience caused to him and possibly some others. The fixing of the time for the meeting solely depended upon the availability of the Indian Embassy auditorium for the purpose and it was in no way intentional.

We are happy to know that Dalvi and his friends are interested in attending the conference in New Delhi. We will definitely organise a separate meeting for them with our officials concerned if there is a group which would like to know more about what has been already published about the conference.

On the other hand, it would be easier if Dalvi could contact us and let us know his address so that we could send him the necessary literature and all the relevant information, and the same applies to his friends. I will take this opportunity of thanking the Arab Times for supporting our efforts to make the conference a success and useful to NRIs in Kuwait.

Iqbal Latif,
Chairman

NRI Investors Forum, Kuwait.

The Simla agreement is a must if one has to deal with food crisis, disasters, pollution, urbanisation and health of his people. Let's take a lesson from the developed world and spend our resources into innovations like, efficient management of our production base, improvement of food supplies, application and design of cheap energy resources, the creation of cheap housing and wide scale prevention of disease. All these opportunities which are quantifiable have been lost to militarism. What about the unquantifiable damage to democracy, human rights and sheer human suffering of the estimated 600 million of South Asia's poorest who are left in absolute poverty and are a legacy of the uncontrollable arms race?

Conventional disarmament is a must if one has to deal with food crisis, disasters, pollution, urbanisation and health of his people. Let's take a lesson from the developed world and spend our resources into innovations like, efficient

management of our production base, improvement of food supplies, application and design of cheap energy resources, the creation of cheap housing and wide scale prevention of disease. All these opportunities which are quantifiable have been lost to militarism. What about the unquantifiable damage to democracy, human rights and sheer human suffering of the estimated 600 million of South Asia's poorest who are left in absolute poverty and are a legacy of the uncontrollable arms race?

Finally the Simla agreement gives us golden opportunity to solve the dispute of Jammu and Kashmir bilaterally on the basis of UN resolutions.

UN resolutions are actually the agenda of the talks. Pakistan is not saying that Kashmir dispute has to be solved in UN headquarters, it can be solved in Delhi or in Islamabad.

I appeal to the prime minister of India to accept the offer of the prime minister of Pakistan for talks on the basis of UN resolutions which is according to the Simla agreement.

Iqbal Ahmad Faruqi,
Sulalibkhet.

ALL Letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.</

JALCO/JTA

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Oil industry prepares for lifting of sanctions

CAPE TOWN, May 30, (Reuter): South Africa's drive for political reform may bring changes to its oil industry, one of the most secretive and regulated sectors of the economy.

The country, well endowed with most strategic minerals but lacking oil, has been the target of a United Nations petroleum embargo since the 1970s because of its apartheid policy.

It still manages to get oil despite the restriction, which is not binding on UN members. To protect the identity of suppliers, South Africa bars publication of — or even speculation about — the origins or volumes of oil imports.

About half its petroleum requirements are met by Sasol Ltd, an oil-from-coal synthetic fuel producer expanded by Pretoria in the 1980s to help counter the impact of the embargo.

The oil industry is highly controlled from exploration to petrol pump sales but in May the government took a tentative step toward greater openness and competition in the oil business.

It announced that the National Energy Council, which controls the industry, would consider deregulating liquid fuels.

"Oil company executives and government officials" told Reuters the move was linked to reforms of apartheid by President F.W. de Klerk which were improving prospects for an end to sanctions.

"Circumstances have changed to such an extent that the whole matter should be reviewed," Mineral and Energy Affairs Minister Dawie de Villiers told parliament when he announced the review.

This is a comprehensive exercise with a broad spectrum of implications. It relates to the procurement of oil, cross-subsidisation, monopolistic activities, competition and several other important issues," he said.

The move was prompted, in the first instance, by the government's desire to extend free enterprise, said a senior official who declined to be identified.

"Secondly, we look with optimism into a future where we will not be burdened with the crude oil embargo," the official said.

The oil embargo has had a considerable effect, according to figures provided by Amsterdam's non-governmental shipping Research Bureau, which monitors Pretoria's oil imports, and which may not be published in South Africa.

Italians begin banking trial

MILAN, Italy, May 30, (AP): The trial of 35 people for the alleged role in Italy's biggest post-war banking scandal opened Tuesday with some key defendants failing to appear.

Licio Gelli, ex-grandmaster of the super-secret P-2 Masonic Lodge, and several others exercised their right under Italian law and stayed away from the proceedings. They will be tried in absentia.

The defendants are charged with being accessories to the 1982 fraudulent bankruptcy of Banco Ambrosiano, which was Italy's largest private bank.

Umberto Ortolani, one of the defendants and former close associate of the late Ambrosiano chairman Roberto Calvi, said allegations of the lodge's involvement with the bank were "fantasy." Speaking to reporters in the courtroom, he said the charges were "fabricated."

Kuwait banking centre urged to set up working party

By Jadranka Porter
Arab Times staff

THE four-day conference on computer-based training ended in Kuwait Tuesday marking the first phase of what could become a long and fruitful exchange between the International Foundation for Computer-based Education in Banking and Finance (IFCEB) and Kuwait's Finance sector.

Participants to Kuwait were given a wealth of information on software programmes but mostly listened to

stories about the experience of others in Europe and North America.

Although the conference started a dialogue it offered few practical suggestions on how IFCEB and Kuwait's banking sector can collaborate. But it did leave the door open for co-operation and it largely left the initiative for further contacts to Kuwaitis.

This was not good enough in view of Dr Andrew Trott, the vice-president of the London-based Association for Educational and Training Technology.

Training needs to be identified

In a lively panel discussion in the final session he told the gathering that maybe Kuwaitis are not sure what is needed because they are not sure what is available.

In a graphic description of his vision of the situation Trott said: "I don't want to pour water into the desert unless it is to irrigate plants."

"It will not pay you to re-invent the wheel and it will not pay you to do what everybody else is doing for that is when the water goes into the sand."

"What Kuwaitis have to do is to use what other people are growing as a seedling and plant it so that it becomes a flourishing tree."

He urged the Kuwaiti banking centre to establish a working party to identify priorities and take them to IFCEB.

IFCEB on its part should set up a commissioning, vetting, filtering and negotiating mechanism in each European country to help not only Kuwait's finance sector but that of the

entire Arab world.

He urged his IFCEB colleagues to find out suitable generic programmes which can be altered to accommodate differences between European and Arab bankers and systems within which they operate.

These differences are by no means few or negligible, he stressed. They are present both in the broader cultural context as well as in specific areas such as training objectives, skills, level of knowledge, learning and teaching

styles and banking laws, he pointed out. To overcome problems that could arise from these differences Trott suggested that a list be compiled of IFCEB specialists in different banking areas who are familiar with the Arab world and could act as its advisers.

Trott supported the suggestion by Burgan Bank's training officer T.K. Sridharan that Kuwait's Institute of Banking Studies take a leading role in assessing the local training needs and collaborating with Brussels-based IFCEB.

Plan vital to avert energy crisis

US dependence on Opec oil growing

VIENNA, May 30, (Opecma): US dependence on Opec oil will grow steadily between now and 1994, increasing from 51 per cent in 1989 to 65 per cent in 1994, according to "Global energy report," a publication of the London-based Centre for Global Energy Studies headed by Ahmed Zaki Yamani.

The report says US imports are destined to rise by 2.7 million bpd during the period, almost all of them from Opec's general and Gulf Arab oil producers in particular.

The US dependence on Opec is thus destined to increase from 51 per cent in 1989 to 65 per cent in 1994. A rise in oil imports of

such proportions will also have a serious effect on the US trade deficit. Oil imports amounting to \$53 billion accounted for 42 per cent of the trade deficit of \$25 billion in 1989," predicts the report.

These imports are projected to rise to \$77 billion by 1994, which would constitute a very large proportion of the US trade deficit in that year if it continues to improve at the present rate.

The rising dependence of the US on oil imports "will thus take centre stage on the trade front, pushing the US trade disputes with Japan out of the limelight," the report argues.

One of the assumptions on which the prediction is made is

that US oil production will decline at an exponential rate of three per cent per annum.

Referring to the oil price collapse in 1986, the report says that it initiated a sequence of responses that resulted in a resumption of the year-by-year decline of the oil production of the lower-48 states. Wells with operating costs that could not be covered under the prevailing pricing regime were shut in and the number of abandoned oil wells shot up in 1986 by 240 per cent over the previous year.

The report points out that the US is now relying on oil imports to meet almost 50 per cent of its consumption compared with only 35 per cent in 1985 when

prices were much higher. It adds that Opec countries are the main beneficiaries of this substantial increase in net imports, with about 79 per cent of them from Opec, almost half of the increase being supplied by Saudi Arabia.

Opec has again urged oil producers and consumers to formulate a "well-articulated" energy plan for the immediate future to avert the possibility of another major oil crisis, it has been reported here.

According to the monthly "Opec Bulletin," released here today by the organisation's secretariat, a situation whereby demand for oil was projected to overshoot supply was "just a few years down the road."

Foreign debt to be reviewed

Third World leaders to meet

KUALA LUMPUR, May 30, (Reuter): A group of 15 Third World leaders gather for the first time this week for a summit designed to knit developing countries closer together, but officials said ideas on the focus of the meeting differ widely.

Some among the so-called Group of 15 (G-15) want to find ways to drag the poor nations out of a whirlpool of foreign debt, others say they want to boost trade among developing countries while others believe their aim is to work toward joint scientific projects.

"We don't really have much in common politically, we're here to talk about the debt that is strangling us all, that is preventing the developing world from becoming the developed world," one Latin American delegate said.

The list of G-15 members reads like a who's who of major Third World debtors, with Brazil, Mexico and Argentina at the top, India, Egypt, Indonesia, Nigeria and Venezuela hot on their heels.

The other nations whose debt is smaller but by no means industrial, are Peru, Malaysia, Algeria, Yugoslavia, Zimbabwe, Senegal and Jamaica.

Leaders of 10 countries and senior ministers of the other five will meet from June 1-3, following two days of talks among officials.

"Of course debt is a concern, but we will not be talking about the usual shopping list of economic

issues here," said Indian High Commissioner to Malaysia Malik Singh.

The group wanted to work on specific projects that would show that developing nations could work effectively together, he said. For example, India has suggested developing solar-powered refrigerators to keep vaccines in rural areas.

Malaysia has proposed financial links between poor nations, including persuading central banks to guarantee bilateral trade.

A good idea, we want to do more business with other developing nations, but until we get rid of our debt it's stupid to talk of anything else," another Latin American delegate said.

Malaysia, hosting the talks at an elegant mansions turned luxury hotel on a heavily guarded hill in the capital Kuala Lumpur, acknowledged that debt was likely to play guest star.

"We are here to try to harmonise our views on items confronting us and external debt is an important one of those items," said Malaysian secretary general of the Foreign Ministry Ahmad Kamal Jafar.

Any decisions on debt taken at the summit would likely be communicated to the industrialised world, he said.

Quite how the G-15 will relate to the first world may turn out to be another bone of contention.

They said the dollar continues to gain some support from flight out of European currencies due to a variety of concerns, including German unification and political moves in Eastern Europe.

The big action of the day was in the British pound, which rallied in early dealing on expectations that Chancellor John Major would give some indication about when Britain would enter into the exchange rate mechanism of the European Monetary System.

The pound peaked at \$1.7071 after comments by Major before midday from Paris where he was meeting with his French counterpart, Pierre Bérégovoy.

The British currency retreated when it became clear that Major was not going to disclose any news.

The pound was quoted later in London at \$1.6930 compared to \$1.6953 late yesterday.

In Tokyo, the dollar rose 0.05 yen to a closing 150.75 yen.

Gold softens

Dollar firm

LONDON, May 30, (AP): The US dollar ended trading in Europe today firmer against most major currencies, benefiting from a flight out of the West German mark.

Gold prices declined.

Dealers in London said the dollar continued moving within a well established trading range as the market awaits the release of US employment data for May, due out Friday.

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Agreement signed

British Exchequer Chancellor John Major seen signing the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) agreement as Sir Ewen Ferguson (centre) and Soviet Minister Council member Victor Guerachchenko (right) look on, at the Elysee Palace on Tuesday. The bank's role would be to help Eastern Europe make the transition from communism to capitalism. (Reuter wirephoto)

Oil pact ends years of squabbling

KUALA LUMPUR, May 30, (Reuter): Malaysia and Thailand ended more than a decade of squabbling today with an agreement allowing joint exploitation of oil and gas deposits worth billions of dollars.

Malaysian Foreign Minister Abu Hassan Omar and Thai Foreign Minister Siddhi Savetsila signed the pact in the Malaysian capital Kuala Lumpur.

Analysts said the accord would allow the development of some of Asia's largest oil and gas deposits in a vast area covering 7,300 sq km (2,800 sq miles) in the Gulf of Thailand.

The two countries have been negotiating over the disputed area since the 1970s when Thailand first sought to exploit its energy potential.

Abu Hassan, disclosing the terms of the accord, said the two countries would share equally in both costs and profits.

WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

TOKYO, May 30, (Reuter): Stocks All Ordinaries index ended 4.6 points up at 1,499.5.

HONG KONG: Shares surged to end at a new post-June 4 high on a much improved political climate. The Hang Seng index ended 34.8 up, or 1.14 per cent, at 3,083.35.

BOMBAY: Shares closed mixed on heavy profit-taking by state-owned mutual funds after the market opened firm. The Bombay Stock Exchange index fell 7.70 to 803.89.

LONDON: Shares remained sharply higher in late trading as a firmer Wall Street opening added support.

Gross Domestic Product figures. The All Ordinaries index ended 4.6 points up at 1,499.5.

HONG KONG: Shares surged to end at a new post-June 4 high on a much improved political climate.

The Hang Seng index ended 34.8 up, or 1.14 per cent, at 3,083.35.

Exhibit 1: Exchange rates

	Cashshare	Open	Close	Change
Cen Enks	3750	3800	3775	-
Cen Spg	3460	3470	3480	+10
Colgate	222.50	222.50	220	-12.50
Cromt Gr	—	—	1125	-
DCM	25.50	25	27	+2
Deep Fert	33	31.50	31.50	-2.50
Dunlop	62.50	61.25	61.25	-1.25
EI Hotels	59	58	59	+1
Escorts	95	94	94.50	+0.50
BSE Index	81.139	80.119	80.119	-1.02
Eskay Auto	455	458.75	457.50	-1.25
Bar Rayon	876.25	872.50	887.30	+10.50
Blow Plast	—	—	—	-
Bom Dye	224	221.50	218	-16

Turkish company tries to break monopoly

ISTANBUL, Turkey, May 30, (AP): A private Turkish company is attempting to break the state monopoly on television broadcasting and capture a share of its lucrative advertising revenues.

Magic Box, a company set up by the Rumeli banking and construction group, has started daily test transmissions from studios near Frankfurt, West Germany, via satellite. The company plans to begin full-time broadcasting in September.

Magic Box, which relies on viewers having a dish antenna above their roofs to catch its signal, has already cornered one of the most popular TV events — live transmission of soccer games. It signed three-year contracts with all 18 soccer clubs in Turkey's major league, according to company officials.

The company has agreed to pay a minimum of \$60,000 a game, said Tunca Toskay, a former director of the state radio and television network TRT and current chief executive of Magic Box.

Having the rights to the soccer games would lend the fledgling enterprise prestige and win a share of 330 billion Turkish lira (\$129 million) TRT earned from advertisements last year, company officials say.

Magic Box programmes will be mostly entertainment, music shows and the like, at the beginning. News programmes from CNN and others as well as movies will be added later.

But the new venture is at the centre of a legal controversy before it has hit the airwaves. Turkey's 1982 constitution, promulgated by then ruling general, stipulates that only the state can own and operate radio and TV stations in the country.

The chief purpose of the monopoly was to prevent political views deemed undesirable, such as Marxism and Muslim fundamentalism, from reaching audiences. News programmes and even movies are still carefully edited.

British economy slowing down

LONDON, May 30, (Reuters): Britain's economy is slowing down but stubborn inflation means British interest rates are likely to stay high for some months, independent economists said on Tuesday.

Gross domestic product (GDP) statistics, a measure of economic activity, issued on Tuesday showed the government's policy of trying to throttle back growth was working, they said.

"There's a gradual slowdown in output, but this isn't aggressive enough to bring about a wave of deflation," said Joe Roseman, economist at stockbrokers UBS Phillips and Drew.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Conservative government, lagging well behind the opposition Labour Party in opinion polls, has embarked on a painful and unpopular policy of using high interest rates to rein in a year-on-year inflation rate which in April stood at 9.4 per cent.

The Central Statistical Office (CSO) said output-based GDP in the first three months of this year gave a year-on-year rise of 1.5 per cent, down from a rate of two per cent the previous quarter. Growth was strongest in manufacturing and services.

Economists pointed to expansion in the service sector, which includes retailers, as a sign upward pressure on inflation remained.

The latest figures show "consumer spending still is relatively buoyant," said David Walton, economist at Goldman Sachs International Ltd.

ADB approves grants to Laos

MANILA, May 30, (UPI): The Asian Development Bank announced today it had approved a \$100,000 technical assistance grant to Laos for a study on the privatisation of state-owned enterprises.

Another \$99,500 grant was approved for Laos to help prepare the country's third five-year economic development plan (1991-95).

The Manila-based bank also announced the approval of the following small-scale technical assistance grants:

■ \$100,000 to Bangladesh to formulate a five-year (1990-95) corporate plan for Bangladesh railways and another \$100,000 for a programme to improve secondary education.

■ \$100,000 to Malaysia to develop community-based livelihood development projects.

Bank's assets growing, says study

The Industrial Bank of Kuwait continued to play its vital and dynamic role in supporting the industrialisation process in Kuwait through industrial financing, promotion of new industries and provision of consulting services to industrialists. 1989 was a successful year from the point of view of profitability.

IBK assets increased by 2.8 per cent during the year, according to Saleh M. Al Yousul, Chairman and managing director of IBK.

However, such growth was neither at the expense of profitability nor did it interfere with our determined policy of consolidation and diversification.

Moreover, the know-how and research capabilities of IBK were put at the service of several governmental departments and local authorities and institutions. Last but not least, the Kuwaitisation process, based on productivity, continued on assured ground this year. He said that the ratio of the Kuwaiti labour force in the bank has reached 30 per cent this year.

The achievements of the Industrial Bank of Kuwait in the industrialisation and develop-

ment process of the Kuwaiti economy is attributed to the cooperative efforts of its staff members and their devotion and dedication to their work.

Steady growth, buoyant trade, rising interest rates, successfully controlled inflation and improved regional imbalances were the main features of the world economy in 1989. Despite the October mini-crash in the international financial markets, the behaviour of the fundamental macro-variables was not affected and stability of the world economy quickly returned to normal.

On the domestic level, the rebounding of international oil prices brought with it improved GDP performance compared to 1988.

Industrial investment flourished and industrial loan financing by IBK went up sharply in 1989 compared with the last few years.

The Industrial Bank of Kuwait was established in late 1973, at the initiative of the Kuwaiti government, as a joint undertaking between the Minis-

try of Finance, the Central Bank, the commercial banks, insurance companies and some large industrial establishments.

The primary goal of IBK is to promote industrial development in Kuwait by pursuing the following objectives:

■ To provide equity, medium and long-term credits for new projects as well as for expansion of existing ones.

■ To provide all banking services to industrialists in Kuwait.

■ To finance projects outside Kuwait with emphasis on the Gulf region, especially where Kuwaiti participation is involved.

■ To bring needed technology to Kuwait and identify foreign partners with the necessary expertise.

■ To support the development of domestic money and capital markets in co-operation with other major financial institutions.

The development of these markets will facilitate the channelling of private savings into industrial investments in and outside Kuwait.

The year 1989 can be safely regarded as the year of a successfully engineered "soft landing" for the US economy as part of a determined international effort to control inflation. The beginning of 1989 witnessed the entrance of the US into an



Saleh M. Al Yousul
Chairman and managing director of IBK

unprecedented seventh consecutive year of post-war economic expansion.

This upsurge brought with it the emergence of inflationary pressures fuelled by rising commodity prices.

The mandate of the Federal Reserve was to engineer a slowdown in growth sufficient to curb inflationary pressures without allowing the economy to slide into an outright recession.

By the end of 1989, it became unmistakably clear that the Federal Reserve was succeeding in its objective.

Following a 1988 GNP growth rate of 4.4 per cent, the second highest record in the current boom, growth subsided during 1989 to an expected 2.9 per cent. Industrial capacity utilisation, which was 84.3 per cent in January, declined slightly but remained at a high level registering 82.8 per cent in October. The unemployment rate, which usually lags economic conditions, declined during the early part of the year and then rose to reach 5.4 per cent in November from a low of 5.0 per cent in March.

This year, US economic performance was outpaced by that of its main trading partners, West Germany and Japan. With GNP growing at an annual rate of 4.2 per cent in the first three quarters, West Germany is likely to achieve a record 4 per cent growth in 1989, boosted by a surge in business investment and export growth. Employment, which had been expected to worsen, improved with the unemployment rate declining from 8 per cent in January to 7.6 per cent in June while capacity utilisation hovered around the 90 percent level for most of the year.

Japan experienced similarly strong growth. Despite a weak second quarter, economic growth for the first three quarters was 4.6 per cent with an expected growth rate of 4.5 per cent for 1989. Unemployment averaged 2.3 per cent during the first 10 months of the year. The UK was the only country which displayed significant weakness with GNP growing by 2.1 per cent up to September and a slightly lower rate expected for the year as a whole.

Venezuela spreads word

Plans to stay in oil's big league

LONDON, May 30, (Reuters): Venezuela is spreading the word that it intends to stay in the big league of leading Opec oil suppliers through to the end of the century and plans to seek foreign firms' participation to expand its petroleum industry.

Andres Sosa Pietri, recently appointed president of state energy group Petroleos de Venezuela S.A. (PDVSA), told reporters today during a visit to Britain that "only five or six oil exporting countries have the capacity to increase production. Venezuela is the only one in the Western Hemisphere."

"We want the United States and the European Economic Community to know that Venezuela is a reliable supplier that never used oil as a commercial

weapon."

Venezuela, a founder member 30 years ago of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, wanted to double current crude oil output of about two million barrels per day (bpd) and also exploit reserves of bitumen, coal and gas, he added.

It might look to joint ventures with foreign firms to help with technology both in different areas of production and in refining its various types of petroleum to turn our products which would meet increasingly strict environmental standards.

Venezuela nationalised its oil industry in 1976.

Sosa Pietri said it was still looking for a formula which would let foreign firms back in without loss of sovereignty over

its resources, adding that this should not be too difficult.

The state would continue to own the petroleum in the ground.

"Production was always done by corporations who paid the state royalties and taxes. Before 1976 they were 100 per cent foreign. Since 1976 it has been 100 per cent state. All we are saying is that we may now have cases of 50-50," he said.

"We have not got the final answer yet. This will require further talks with the government and the companies."

"It will not be the old system of concession and service contracts. We are doing the exploration ourselves ... we want partners to add to our competitive advantage."

But it was wrong to think that

PDVSA buying of storage and oil terminal facilities in the Caribbean was a competitive move "to try to exclude Middle East and African oil from the Western Hemisphere."

From Sosa Pietri's comments, it appeared that Venezuela, like Kuwait, saw Eastern Europe as a potential petroleum market.

Questioned on existing and on possibly expanded PDVSA links with the German Veba AG group, he said: "Veba gives us a potential petroleum market."

In the Western Hemisphere, US, European and Japanese groups were interested in a projected \$2.5 billion joint venture to supply 675 million cubic feet of Venezuelan liquefied natural gas (LNG) to the United States.

Senior Cathay Pacific executives from Hong Kong visited Bahrain recently to meet government and private sector officials and attend a conference with the airline's regional staff. The officials also addressed a wall attended press conference at the Regency Inter-Continental Hotel to brief reporters on recent developments in the airline. At the conference (from left) are the two executives from Hong Kong, David Bell, group PR manager for the Swire Group and Cathay Pacific and Mike Thacker, the airline's commercial director, Robert Atkinson, Cathay's general manager, Middle East and India, Rajeev Budhiraja, pricing and marketing services manager, Middle East, and Akram Mifnas, president, Fortune Promoseven, the airline's Gulf advertising and PR agency.

Executives visit Bahrain

WASHINGTON, May 30, (AP): A World Bank spokesman reported that representatives of 152 governments unanimously approved \$300 million for China on Tuesday, the bank's biggest loan to China since lanks suppressed the pro-democracy movement there last June.

Approval came despite protests in the US Congress and from Chinese student groups in this country.

The United States contributes more than any other country to the bank, which is the biggest source of aid to the Third World. Patrick Coady, the US executive director, is one of the 22 members on the board that met Tuesday and approved the loan behind closed doors.

Until last year, China was one of the bank's two biggest borrowers, along with India. It borrowed

\$1.35 billion in the 12 months that ended last July 30. Since then it has only had \$140 million.

The new loan will go largely for planting trees in 15 Chinese provinces. China can take 40 years to repay it, at less than 1 percent per year.

Within a week after tanks went into Tiananmen Square, bank president Barber Conable held up loans to China worth \$780 million. Then President George Bush asked that loans be withheld. Later, he said they should be granted only for basic human needs.

US Treasury spokesman Robert Levine said after Tuesday's board decision that the forestry loan qualified under that definition because it provides jobs, fuel and housing material for low-income farmers. It is part of a \$500 million project, for which China will provide the other \$200 million.

Required for an industrial company

Mechanical Technician

with following qualifications:

- Technician certificate from a mechanical institute.
- Experience not less than two years.
- Capable of reading and writing English.
- Valid and transferable residence permit.

Application including certificates and telephone number to be sent to:
P.O. Box 2900, Safat 13029, Kuwait.

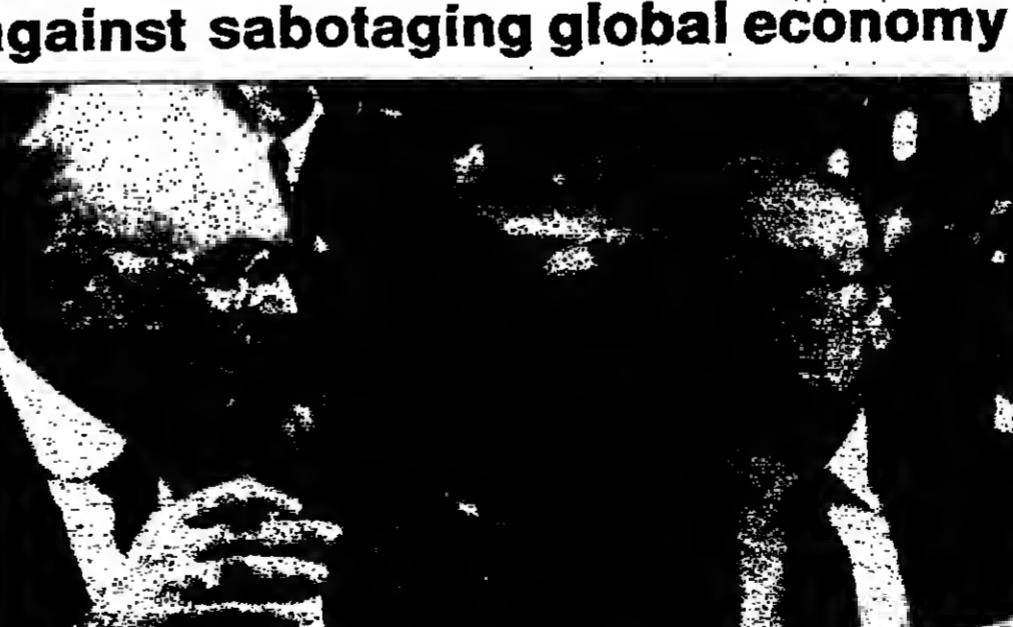
Junior Accountant REQUIRED

Must be fluent in Arabic and English and possess an Accounting qualification or have significant relevant experience.

Knowledge of computers an advantage.

Please send resume to:
Financial Manager

Salem Al-Marzouk and Sabah Abi-Hanna W.L.L.
P.O. Box 1913
13020 Safat



US Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady (right) chats with Secretary of Agriculture Clayton Youther, at the opening session of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) meeting yesterday. Finance and trade ministers from the world's richest countries began talks with the United States challenging Western Europe to prove its commitment to eradicate trade barriers. (Reuters Wirephoto)

their. That is designed to buttress the value of the West German mark on world currency markets, keeping the price of the country's imports low.

But there is a limit to how far that strategy can be followed.

Italian Budget Minister Paolo Pomicino ruled out today any further short-term cut in his country's key interest rate.

"We do not consider at this stage that we can proceed with a further cut in the discount rate," he told a news conference.

Italy cut its discount rate to 12.5 per cent from 13.5 on May 19.

Not all the ministers sound as optimistic about inflation as Haussman and Brady. British Chancellor of the Exchequer

John Major told the OECD meeting that inflation was still a danger.

"The main risk to continued growth and prosperity in our economies is undoubtedly inflation," he said.

He pledged to keep interest rates in Britain high for as long as needed to bring inflation out of the economy.

Horseback riding preceded the wheel

By Rob Stein

WASHINGTON, (UPI): A scientist has reported he found the first direct proof that ancient humans rode horses before the wheel was invented — stallion teeth with bridle marks dating nearly 6,000 years.

A microscopic study of horse teeth buried about 4000 BC and discovered in what is now the Ukraine in the Soviet Union, revealed scratches from a mouth bite, indicates the horse had been ridden, said David Anthony of Hartwick College in Oneonta, New York.

"There has been previous speculation that horseback riding occurred this early. This is the first direct proof," said Anthony, an assistant professor of anthropology who presented his findings at the international conference on archaeozoology.

The traditional view is horseback riding developed between 2000 and 1500 BC in the Ukraine. While there had been some archaeological evidence that riding may have occurred earlier, there was no direct evidence, Anthony said.

Anthony travelled to Derevka in the Ukraine last April to make plaster casts of teeth rooted in the skeleton of a stallion. The skeleton was found "buried with two domesticated dogs," he said.

Anthony used a powerful microscope — a scanning electron microscope — to compare the casts to teeth from modern horses that had been ridden and wild American horses that had never been ridden.

I was looking for a technique so you could say this horse was ridden, this horse was just dinner," he joked.

Anthony said he found markings on the ancient horse teeth that were identical to scratches and damage he had found on the teeth of modern horses from metal bits attached to reins used to ride them.

I saw exactly what I had seen on my modern domestic control horses that I had studied earlier — a kind of wear that never appears on wild horses.

The chewing surface of the tooth is all braided and cracked and broken. On a wild horse it is quite smooth," he said. "I can be quite sure it wasn't caused by chewing a rock."

If the horse had been ridden, it would have been 500 to 700 years before the invention of the wheel, which was believed to have occurred between 3000 and 3500 BC.

"The invention of the wheel has traditionally been as the first innovation in land transport. What we have is evidence that horseback riding preceded the wheel," he said.

Anthony was uncertain why the people who lived in the Ukraine then, known as the Sredni Stog culture, would have begun riding horses, which were commonly eaten during that period.

"If you ever see what kids do to animals — they'll ride a dog — I suspect it originated as a form of play," he said.

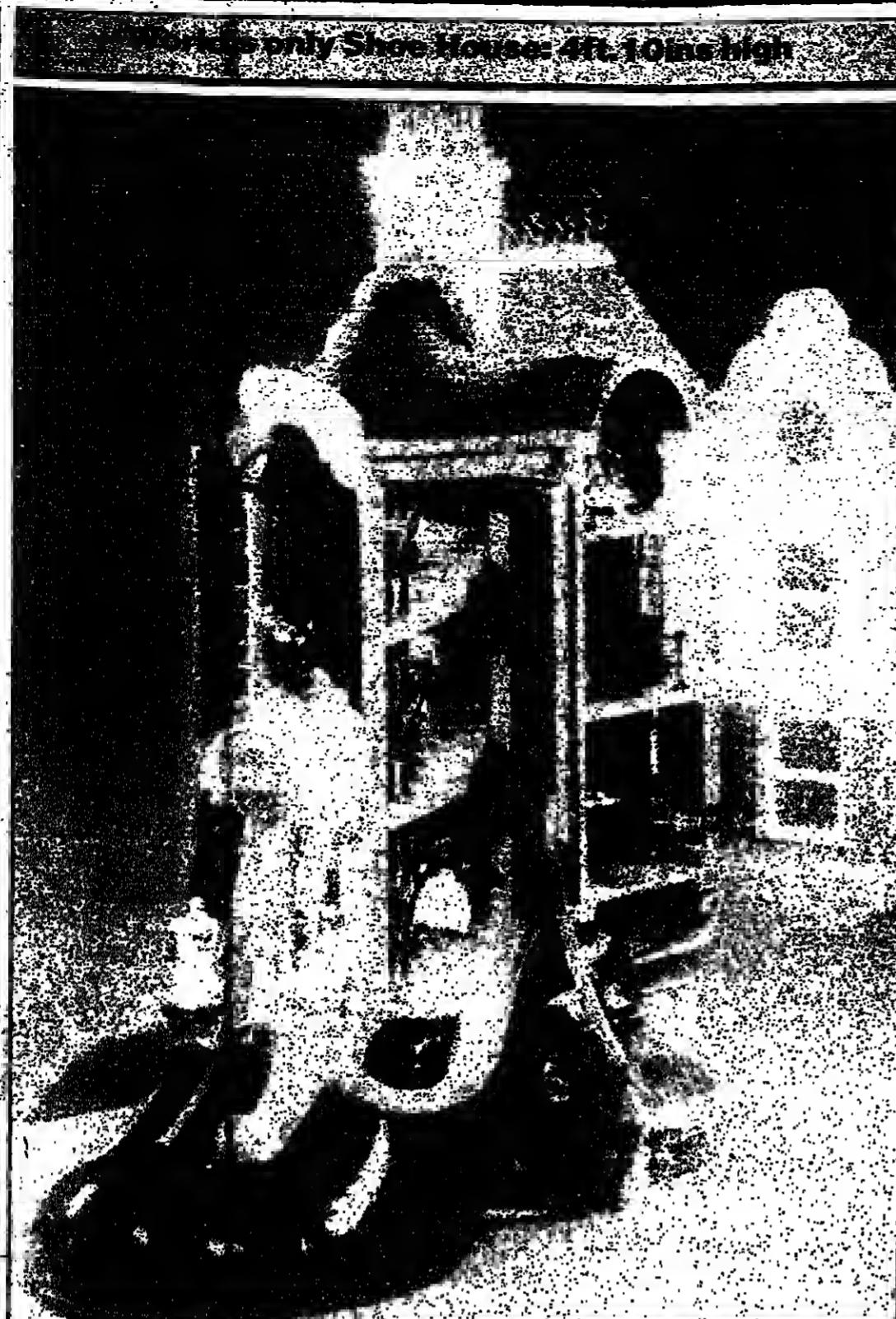
But the findings could help explain how the Sredni Stog people were able to survive in the harsh environment.

"Horses provided one of the key elements necessary to live productively in the grasslands," he said.

"I enabled them to find good grazing for their herds and trade farther distances. It enabled them to make alliances with more varied groups. It enabled them to make war in ways that were impossible before."

"You put together all these things and it revolutionized the history of the grasslands of Eurasia."

A major research question has been who spoke the original mother language. If the Indo-europeans began in the Ukraine, as many people think, the domestication of the horse and the beginnings of riding could help explain the spread out from this area and the spread of the language with the people."



The buyer of this "house" would have to jump in feet first with an offer of £30,000 to £50,000.

Desirable home

Cost: £50,000

A DESIRABLE residence could be worth £50,000... even though it looks more like an old boat.

The 4 ft. 10 ins. dolls' house, complete with Victorian people and miniature furniture, has lights that switch on and off and fires and stoves that "light".

There is even some hidden treasure, just waiting to be found.

Every tiny detail, right down to the baby, nanny and birthday cake in the nursery, is perfect. And the Shoe House is the only residence of its kind in the world.

Take a tour of its tiny rooms... and get ready for some surprises.

The Nursery: Apart from the little, perfectly-furnished baby and nanny, there is a high chair, metal pram, a minute jigsaw and waiting for a game, is an elephant on wheels. There is even a tiny bowl of fruit, metal candles, a skipping rope and a metal stove that really works.

The bedroom: Has an iron bed and bedding, a brass fender

and fireplace as well as a little wooden washstand. All made for Lilliput-sized people. Then there is a wooden dressing mirror and oval table, and two wooden doors.

The dining room: Four wooden peg dolls and a baby enjoy a meal at the tiny oval, gateleg table. Above this hangs a delicate chandelier, and there are even some metal birds under a glass dome.

Around the brass fireplace there is a little basket of wood, an upholstered armchair and a pink, yellow and cream sofa.

The bathroom: Two more wooden peg dolls are to be found waiting for a scrub. Ready for them is a wicker chair, porcelain bathtub, wooden washstand, china jug and basin.

The sunroom: Has two secrets. If the painted sun on the floor is turned one way, it opens to reveal an empty room. Turned the other way, a Father Christmas with a box of crackers appears.

And with a price of £50,000, it would have to be a very rich old woman who lived in this shoe!

FAMILY DOCTOR By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

Exercise, heat ease pain of arthritis

nor you will become a "junkie" from taking oral medication such as aspirin, NSAIDS (non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs) such as ibuprofen and many others) and acetaminophen, and the help they offer can be the difference between complete relief and unnecessary suffering.

Medications taken on a regular schedule are more effective than when taken just once in a while when the pain becomes too much to bear. Taking these medications under a doctor's direction in correct dosages, along with the use of some of these tips, may offer you relief you surely deserve.

I thought you would like to know: If you were not aware of it, May is national melanoma/skin cancer detection and prevention month, sponsored by the American Academy of Dermatology. And malignant melanoma, a serious skin cancer characterized by the uncontrolled growth of melanin (pigment) producing tanning cells, is on the rise with 27,600 new cases reported in 1989, or about 1,500 more than in 1988.

I'm always frustrated when you send in questions to me about skin cancer, because it's most difficult to describe these lesions in words alone. But now I have just the weapon I need to help fight the war on skin cancer and give you the chance to see what we are talking about. A superbly prepared booklet with full-colour photographs is now available upon request and without charge. It's called "melanoma/skin cancer; you can recognize the symptoms" and you may obtain your copy by sending a stamped, self-addressed, business-size envelope to the American Academy of Dermatology, P.O.Box 3116, Evanston, Ill. 60204-3116.

This is the best publication I've seen to help you identify skin cancers, and obtain care in the swift and speedy fashion that provides the best outcome.

But don't cast aside all the help that medications can provide when used properly. There is no shame in the regular and appropriate use of an analgesic.

New kids fight for cola crown

By Judy Byrne

POP sensations New Kids On The Block have had the ultimate proof that they have arrived.

Not their triumph at the Los Angeles music awards in January when their album *Hangin' Tough* was voted the best of last year and they were chosen as the top rock-pop band. Not the Beatlemania-style reception they now get wherever they go.

And not the 30,000 fan letters a day or the 100,000 calls a week currently jamming their America fan line, soon to be duplicated in Britain.

No, the real proof that they have made it to the most major league is the £1,800,000 contract from Coca-Cola to weigh in the forces of Coke in the Pepsi versus Coca-Cola war.

They join an exclusive celebrity group that already includes Madonna, Michael Jackson, Michael J. Fox, George Michael and Don Johnson, David Bowie, Bros, Tina Turner and recent signing Kylie Minogue, whose deal with Coca-Cola could earn her £750,000.

Both companies are constantly scouting for expensive talent to keep the fizz in the campaigns that rage endlessly to woo our short-term thirst and long-term brand loyalty.

Around 300 million people round the world were drinking a Pepsi and 419 million freshening up with a Coke a day at the latest count.

Pepsi wants to overtake Coke. Coke wants to pull further ahead. And the outcome is unrelenting warfare.

Despite the huge sums poured into a celebrity pockets in recent years, Coca-Cola admits it still regards as its benchmark the 1971 advertisement which reversed the usual order by creating a chart success.

It starred a collection of unknowns and went on to become the hit *I'd Like To Teach The World To Sing* for both the New Seekers and the Hillside Singers. Their combined sales topped the million mark.

The company decided to include in its campaign this year an updated version starring not only as many of the original cast as they could find but their children, too.

It took the Pinkerton Detective Agency five months to track them down. Some had been students who had moved on many times before they finally settled down.

But the most wanted was also the toughest to crack — the fresh young beauty who apparently led the singing but has since confessed she was really miming!

Linda Higson had been mistakenly entered in the company's books as Linda Hipson. In any case, she was by now Linda Neary, wife of Manchester solicitor and former international Rugby Union player Tony Neary, and mother of four young children.

Shooting was only five days away when a friend spotted an advertisement in the International Herald Tribune and told her.

Linda, who had been working as a nanny in Italy when she was chosen to front the original advertisement for a £200 fee, was whisked to Sacrofano, near Rome, with her two eldest children Kelly, 10, and Daniel, seven.

There are switches in each of the minutely detailed furnished rooms, which turn on the ceiling and wall lights. Press-buttons in each of the four chimneys "turn on" the stove or fire in the exquisitely-designed rooms.

The toy shop is hidden in the heel of this Victorian lady's polished boot and is full of miniature wooden toys. It has a glazed bay window and counters above drawers that really work and is set in stained and varnished wood and beige suede.

The Shoe House was made in polished and natural wood, suede, brass and leather and took five years to perfect. It was made by toymaker Rof Forss in 1979 and is being auctioned by Sotheby's in London.

The bathroom: Two more wooden peg dolls are to be found waiting for a scrub. Ready for them is a wicker chair, porcelain bathtub, wooden washstand, china jug and basin.

The sunroom: Has two secrets. If the painted sun on the floor is turned one way, it opens to reveal an empty room. Turned the other way, a Father Christmas with a box of crackers appears.

And with a price of £50,000, it would have to be a very rich old woman who lived in this shoe!



Kylie Minogue's deal with Coca-Cola could earn her £750,000.

"I feel like Cinderella," she said. "I said 'no' when I was approached for the original ad but the TV crew used their considerable powers of persuasion and I agreed then I forgot all about it."

"It was a great thrill but very definitely a one-off, I thought."

Now Linda has filmed the sequel in which she and her daughter "sing" lines from the original advertisement between flashbacks to the way she was 19 years ago.

Linda, who lives in large Victorian villa in extensive grounds in Alderley Edge, Cheshire, is not saying what Coca-Cola is paying her but "it won't make me wealthy".

Which also sets it apart from the celebrity contracts which have cost Pepsi and Coke megabucks over the last few years.

Madonna, for example, is believed to have cost Pepsi £2 million — yet to her it was just a drop in the £50 million she is reckoned to have earned in a decade that has included three multi-platinum albums and a dozen consecutive singles in the top five.

About the same time as she weighed in for Pepsi, she bought a Beverly Hills mansion on impulse for nearly £1 1/2 million.

Making a cola commercial is not exactly strenuous work, either. George Michael, the ex-Wham! star who reportedly got about half Madonna's fees from Coca-Cola, had to

appear on stage for only two of the 13 hours it took to shoot the advertisement.

He had a stand-in the rest of the time while 3,000 extras planted in the audience at New York's Madison Square Garden "filmed" him with dummy cameras and in the end, it was edited down to just two minutes anyway.

A company spokesman explained why he was chosen to represent Diet Coke in a deal that also included sponsoring a sell-out tour.

"He is a very exciting personality and fun guy," he said. "These qualities are worth a lot of money in the advertising world and fit our young, healthy image."

Miami Vice star Don Johnson is another Coca-Cola front man, having earned £1,200,000 for just five hours work.

Most of the Coke-Pepsi money goes to musicians but Johnson is not the only actor to have cleaned up. Michael J. Fox made £3 million for two days' filming for Diet Pepsi and got a lot of job satisfaction out of it, too.

The advertisement, in which he goes down the fire escape to get a Diet Pepsi for a girl, was his own idea. Originally he was supposed to play a film star drinking from a can.

And afterwards he said: "I've had as many people stop me in the street and ask me, 'Aren't you that guy in the Diet Pepsi ad?' as have bad stop me and say 'Weren't you in Back to the Future?'"

The companies are extremely image-sensitive. Pepsi has invested huge sums in sponsoring David Bowie's Glass Spider tour of 60 shows in 15 countries and making a commercial co-starring him and Tina Turner when Bowie was accused of raping a woman.

The singer denied Wanda Nicholls' claims that he had raped and tortured her and told her he had AIDS. A grand jury has since cleared him.

Pepsi refused to confirm that there was any connection between the allegations and the company's decision to pull off the Bowie-Turner advertisement and replace it with an old Michael Jackson one.

The official line was that it was because Jackson's album *Bad* was shooting up the charts. But there were those who wondered...

And Tina, now 51 with legs going on 20, has just been recruited a second time. As part of the Pepsi response to Coca-Cola's signing of New Kids On The Block, she has been given a £3-1/2 million fee for an advertisement as part of what is reckoned to be the most the company has ever paid out in a single contract.

The rest of the gigantic £25 million deal is backing for her six-month 16-century Foreign Affair tour.

The most flattering thing about it for her is that Pepsi turned to Tina after deciding to reject the Rolling Stones whose *Urban Jungle* tour was finally supported by the beer firm Budweiser.

A Pepsi spokesman said: "There were other problems which prevented any deal being signed with the Stones."

"At the end of the day, we thought we should be looking somewhere else and chose Tina."

"She is the same age as some of the Stones but she has a much fresher approach. She certainly doesn't look 51."

Tina walked out on her marriage to Ike Turner with the clothes she was wearing, a petrol charge card and 35 cents. She is no longer on her uppers. Last year, she bought a £1-1/2 million London home.

With refreshing honesty, she admits to needing a lot of cash. "I'd sooner shop than have sex," she says. "It gives me more pleasure than any other pursuit. I'd be lost without my gold card."

One of her aides admitted that sponsorship has now become an essential part of getting a major tour on the road at all.

Pepsi's policy, generally, has been to back established groups but they made a shrewd exception in the early days of Bros.

For a mere £250,000, they backed the group's debut tour of Britain and watched their protégés come from nowhere to teeny idols.

The company explained: "They are very clean-cut and go well with the Pepsi image."

They do not come much more clean-cut than the 14-year-old schoolboy who is soon to become the star of Coca-Cola's advertisement designed to coincide with football's World Cup finals in Italy.

Birmingham boy Elliot Stratton has been chosen to buy a can of Coke and kick a football in the street. The scene will then transform itself into a World Cup stadium.

Football careers, it seems, also go better with Coke....



Pepsi usually backs established groups but they made a shrewd exception in the early days of Bros.

BLONDIE — By Dean Young & Stan Drake



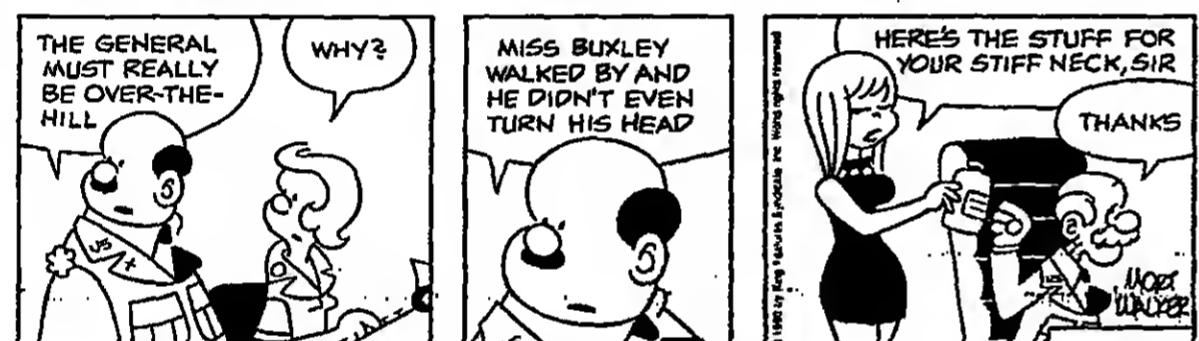
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE — By Dik Browne



AGATHA CRUMM — By Bill Hoest



BEETLE BAILEY — By Mort Walker



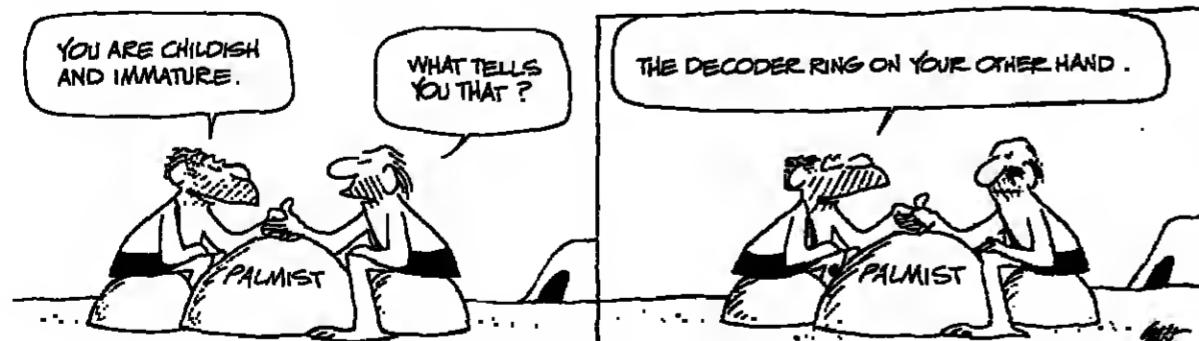
THE WIZARD OF ID — By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



ANDY CAPP



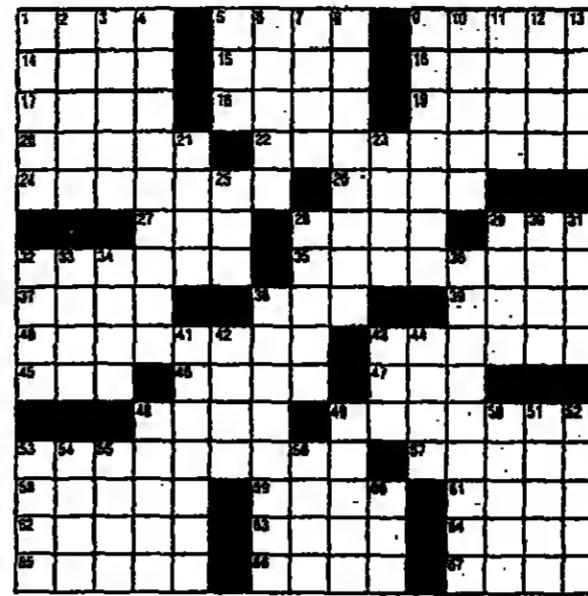
B.C. — By Johnny Hart



HE-MAN — By G. Foster & J. Shull



TODAY'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1 Bridge term
- 2 Press on
- 3 Bang
- 4 French military cap
- 5 Standard
- 6 Otherworldly
- 7 Currier's partner
- 8 Vanity case
- 9 Demolishes, in Soho
- 10 Respond
- 11 Watchful
- 12 Asta or Fal
- 13 Lay 'em in the aisles
- 14 Elevated railroads
- 15 Surrealist
- 16 Antique
- 17 Tell
- 18 Cowboy
- 19 Press
- 20 Have an otherworldly air
- 21 Alan, Frances or Robert
- 22 Beethoven's Sixth
- 23 Moslem salutation
- 24 Superative ending
- 25 Place kick
- 26 Have a faver
- 27 Misbehavin'
- 28 Pixies
- 29 Shrew
- 30 Get out of Concerning
- 31 Ascend
- 32 So be it!
- 33 Thicket
- 34 Jon
- 35 Alan, Francis or Robert
- 36 Beethoven's Sixth
- 37 Moslem salutation
- 38 Superative ending
- 39 Place kick
- 40 Have a faver
- 41 Mess offering
- 42 Envoy
- 43 Helicopter part
- 44 River at Leeds
- 45 Fool
- 46 Entertain
- 47 Aver
- 48 Domesticates
- 49 Plant disease
- 50 Major
- 51 Madrid
- 52 Change course at sea
- 53 Black, to a poet
- 54 Lasso
- 55 Middle
- 56 Deserter

DOWN

- 1 Kit
- 2 Quay
- 3 "A partridge in — tree"
- 4 Rascal
- 5 Before
- 6 deutz
- 7 Envoy
- 8 Envoy
- 9 Tract of land
- 10 Thug, goon
- 11 — Major
- 12 Appearance
- 13 Nuisance
- 14 Tip
- 15 Fitzgerald
- 16 Japan or Siam
- 17 Ending
- 18 Resided
- 19 Aver
- 20 Domesticates
- 21 Plant disease
- 22 Major
- 23 Madrid
- 24 Change course at sea
- 25 Black, to a poet
- 26 Lasso
- 27 Middle
- 28 Deserter

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

ALANS	MAST	ADDS
SARAH	AMIE	LIRA
PINTO	GENA	EMIT
COOUNTINGSHEEP	REO	LEA
RED	LEA	
CASE	TAPE	BLEEP
EVE	SELL	EEBIE
DIDNTS	SLEEP	PAWINK
ALEENE	BARS	SEE
RAREE	HERD	CARS
LOA	PAB	
SLEEPLESSNESS		
MEAN	ETRE	GAIITS
EGGS	RENT	ESTER
NOISE	ARES	SEEMIS

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

TOMMY TURNS UP TRUMPS

Neither vulnerable. South deals. Tommy was quite an ordinary player except in situations where trumps broke badly. Then he becomes the ace of aces.

Over the years, Tommy's bidding had shown signs of improvement—in the old days, he probably would have pushed to an unmakable grand slam. As it was, the auction was alarmingly brisk, but a small slam was a reasonable contract.

West led the queen of spades, taken by the ace. Tommy instinctively made the correct technical play of leading to the ace of clubs and ruffing a club. When a trump to the ace revealed the 4-0 break, many declarers would have thrown in the sponge, for it looks as if there are two trump losers and a diamond. But Tommy was ahead of the game.

After ruffing another club, declarer cashed the remaining high spade and used a spade ruff as the entry for another club ruff. When both the ace and king of diamonds lived, Tommy was ready to claim his slam. West was down to nothing but three trumps, while South held K of hearts and a losing diamond. Tommy exited with his diamond, forcing West to ruff and lead away from his queen of trumps into declarer's tenace. Making six-odd.

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
4 NT	Pass	5 ♠	Pass
6 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♠

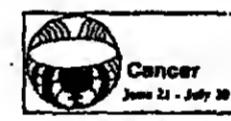
Players at the club wished that bridge was a game where unlimited substitutes were permitted. In that case, the club team could keep Trump Coup Tommy on the bench until such time when a deal came along that required his peculiar talents. Bring him in to declare in his usual dazzling fashion, then move him out again at the end of the play. As our readers are well aware,



YOUR STARS



Aries
March 21 - April 19



Cancer
June 21 - July 19



Libra
Sept. 23 - Oct. 22



Capricorn
Dec. 23 - Jan. 19

Not everything is as easy as you would have liked but with a little more effort you will be able to manage. An old 'friend' will unfortunately turn out to be nothing of the kind. You should try not to lose your temper. Be courteous.

You will be able to do something that will increase your self-esteem. However you should not make a nuisance of yourself. Everything you do seems to be taking longer than you had thought so do your best to avoid wasting time. Be generous.

Taurus
April 21 - May 19

Leo
July 23 - Aug. 22

Pay more attention to what is happening around you. And please make sure your facts and figures are up to date. Do not take everything quite so seriously but do avoid frivolity, too. Be considerate.

You will be able to do something to make amends and you will feel better as a result. You should do your best to introduce a little more order into a rather chaotic situation.

Gemini
May 21 - June 19

Virgo
Aug. 23 - Sept. 22

You will tend to tire rather easily and should ensure you do what needs to be done first of all. Do not leave anything fragile where it could be broken. Use a little more common sense and try not to indulge in daydreams. Be reliable.

You are all too liable to act on impulse and should restrain yourself. Read a good book, but do not let it take precedence over your commitments. Take the best possible care of your health. Be more patient.

Scorpio
Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

You should do all you can to avoid getting into an argument. Have a little more faith in yourself and persevere with what you are doing. A prediction towards eating sweets and biscuits should be curbed. Be tactful.

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Pisces
Feb. 19 - March 19

Capricorn
Dec. 23 - Jan. 19

You will be rather disinclined to get down to matters and will have to use more willpower. Try not to allow things to get out of order, if you do you will waste a lot of time trying to find things. You should not expect others to behave just as you would wish them to.

You will be rather disinclined to get down to matters and will have to use more willpower. Try not to allow things to get out of order, if you do you will waste a lot of time trying to find things. You should not expect others to behave just as you would wish them to.

"We want something to match our carpet. What have you got with cigarette burns?"

"What would you do if you swore to keep a secret and it was driving you crazy?"

Indian Cinema

Will Mumtaz storm the screen

By Firoze Rangonwala
Special correspondent

ALL eyes are on Pahlaj Nihalani's *Aandhiyan*, and its central attraction is Mumtaz, who is making a come-back after years. Everyone is curious about how she looks; how she acts, her role and her songs and dances but the million dollar question is will she be accepted by the audience and regain her popularity?

Such questions have become a topic of discussion at cocktail parties by industry folk and film fans. Mumtaz, or Mumu as she was nicknamed, has tried to break the image barrier created by the unwritten taboos of age, appearance and acceptance of past career by the cine-goers.

When she left films, Mumtaz was a singing-dancing doll, showing flashes of acting when the roles demanded. Her beauty and sex appeal were the main assets which lingered in the public mind. But today it's a different scenario.

Producer Pahlaj and director David Dhawan have tried to keep the film under wraps, so that no adverse opinion starts floating. They held a preview of half a dozen songs, followed by a party. Despite the secrecy, some things have leaked out. One only has to read between the lines and see through the smoke screen created by publicity men. Mumtaz uses heavy make-up



Mumtaz in *Aandhiyan*. Her comeback venture but will she regain her popularity?

painstakingly photographed to look good. Performance wise, she has acted as she used to before. Nothing more or less.

In most scenes she appears elderly and serious, as a crusading columnist and mother of Prasenjit as well as would-be man-

in-law of charming young newcomer Madhushree. She plays the estranged wife of Shatrughan Sinha, who did not tell her of his

political connections and goes on to become the chief minister, with his father's help. Her whole emotional life revolves around the son and she has kept papa and grandpa hidden from him. But when he comes to know the truth, he torments the two men socially, so that his mother can get back her rightful place.

For these sequences, Mumtaz wears make-up to look matronly; the rimmed glasses give her the journalistic touch. (Do all columnists look like librarians?) This provides a good camouflage for hiding any unphotogenic facial flaws, except those carefully added by make-up. The real test comes in the flashbacks, when she remembers how she met Shatru, fell in love, sang and danced in the breeze and was eventually cheated; her marriage is kept unofficial for political reasons.

It's at this point that the answer becomes dicey, whether cinegoers will accept Mumtaz as a young damsel-in-distress give a unanimous verdict aged. She sings *Yeh wadda kar lein*, dancing to the tune of Shatru. No amount of scenic charm, unusual locations or clever editing in close-ups can cover up the fact that Mumtaz simply does not belong to that age. Why could she not play a mature character throughout the film?

In comparison, vivacious new talent Madhushree is bound to succeed. She makes the romantic lead opposite Prasenjit, another star jumping from Bengal to Bombay. Mumtaz is tolerable in the song *Duniya mein tera bina koi nahin mera*, because she sings it with her son. For most part, she has to play the emotionally wounded woman, facing conflicts. They become more painful, when the son stays away from her, for her own good.

So far as histories are concerned, everyone knows that Mumtaz had never been any great shakes at acting. She had developed a limited style and range, within which she did some good roles. But to expect a talent burst from her is wishful thinking. Even highly gifted serious actresses like Waheeda Rehman, Sharmila Tagore, Rehana Sultan or Shabana could not make the same impact, when they left their heroine days behind and came back as elderly women.

If *Aandhiyan* (storms) has merely banked on the return of Mumtaz as its main draw, then it has put its ship afloat in stormy waters.



Dev Anand's ambition is to make a film "that will create a stir in the whole world".

'Bury the past; look ahead'

Your "Aawal Number" has just been released but was not received well. What do you say?

"It's too early to say. Some films take a slow start, then run on in the interior circuits. Anyway, I don't care much for how much money each film makes. I care for inner satisfaction. That keeps me going. Now you are on to...."

"*Sau Karoo*". A very topical subject. A leading champion gets killed. What's the cause? Politics, terrorism, corruption? Of course, there is entertainment, too. Again some new faces?

Yes, forget Ektaa, see Raman and Fatima. That's my philosophy. Bury the past, look ahead. Why are you doing outside films, like *Aman Ke Farishte*?

Only one at a time. I give myself wider opportunity as an actor.

What is your ambition?

To make a film that will create a stir in the whole world. Then I would be at peace, gathering reactions and rewards.

terms, too. But then she broke the rules and signed outside films of the wrong kind. So Chandra promptly chucked her out. Since she lost a big film, others also got shaky. So now she is neither here nor there. ***

Poor Suresh Oberoi gets a chance to work with top heroines only in woman-oriented dacoit dramas and the like. He made the most of it with Dimple in romantic scenes and songs of *Khadli Ganga*. But finally he had to lead her, not to the altar, but to the gallows. So again he was left back as non-hero. As per industry rules, only the one who gets the girl can be treated as a hero.

STAR SHIPS

Anupam Kher: "Now I want to do just the reverse of what Naseeruddin is doing. I want to do off-beat roles he once did. And he wants to do the bad stuff was doing. Naseer is doing absurd things. Imagine wearing a woman's bathing costume."

Rahul Rawail: "In my *Mast Qalandar*, Anupam is playing the new role of a 'gay' who goes after Prema Chopra. He is also dressed up like one. In other countries gays have been given legal sanction, though not yet in India."

Rekha: "Now every month I will be staying 20 days in Bombay and 10 days in Delhi. But of course, Mukesh will come to Bombay during the 20 days."

Varsha: "Mithun is a gem of a person who is instrumental in my choice of films. He had seen my Marathi film. He said we must work together. And within 8 days I got the offer of Indo-Soviet 'Shikari'."

Salman: "Everything here belongs to my dad. I don't even own a pillow. So I want to make it big. I want lots of money."

Freedom wave causes chaos in industry

By Vernon Scott

HOLLYWOOD, (UPI): Soviet actress Natalia Andreichenko says Russia's film industry has been shaken by its newly acquired freedoms, and isn't quite sure how to handle them.

Andreichenko, one of the Soviet Union's leading actresses, has been in Hollywood with her husband, actor Maximilian Schell, since January. But she still keeps a home in Moscow.

Her first great film was *Siberiade* for director Andre Konchalovsky, which won the special jury prize at the Cannes film festival in 1979. She starred in the Soviet version of *Mary Poppins* and her 1983 movie, *Wartime Romance*, won an Oscar nomination for best foreign language film.

In the course of starring in 25 movies, she has twice won the award for most popular actress in the USSR.

Perestroika and Glasnost, she says, have shaken the Soviet film industry with a wave of freedom of expression and subject matter.

The film community, she said, doesn't know how to handle it.

"It is chaos," she said. "There is so much freedom that they do not know which way to turn."

"So many changes have come in our country so quickly. It's unbelievable."

"I left Moscow last January and since then I've had many Russian directors and writers ask me to come back to work in many projects. They tell me everything is possible. They can make films about drugs and prostitution in Russia — stories unsympathetic to the communists."

"It's exciting. Also confusing. For instance we have about 50 good French movie cameras in

the country, but they are already being used by filmmakers and nobody knows how to get others.

Filmmakers know about making commercial movies. The state financed films and was not necessary to make a profit.

"The stories were about Lenin and Stalin, the war and how great we are and how much we suffered. If people liked the film or not was unimportant."

"Now we have more cinemas opening, but nobody in the entire Soviet Union knows or understands anything about distribution. What does distribution mean? Who knows what Soviet audiences want to see?"

"We know they love American films, but Russians don't believe in Cinderella or fairy tales. Our history has been so tragic that we don't believe in happy endings. In this century alone more than 80 million Russians were killed. Sixty-four million were murdered by Stalin and 20 million in the Second World War."

"Russians are very deep people. They think they are more like Americans than Europeans. But differences are big, too. Russians, to be good people must be moral, married once and very proper or they will not be respected. Because we live so close together in big cities it is important for us to confirm."

"We like to suffer. We like tragedy because we have traditionally lived with tyrants and now there are none."

"For centuries they were dominated by barbarians. Later they looked to their religion, then the Czars, then the revolution and Stalin and the Communist rulers who followed him. Now we have nothing and no one to cling to. Millions of Russians are frightened and lost."

The government frowned on her marriage to Schell more than three years ago, but now the heat is off.

Foreigners — including Schell — have trouble understanding the Byzantine and sometimes bizarre world of Soviet filmmaking, she said in offering up an example:

"When we were making *Peter the Great*, we left our location in Uzbekistan, an agricultural area, for a small town north of Moscow."

The director asked the Italian wig maker to put hundreds of wigs for the actors on the plane. Instead he put them aboard two Soviet trucks for the two-day journey.

"But they didn't show up. So production stopped for three weeks while we waited for the wigs. Helicopters were sent to look for the trucks. Search parties were organised."

"You know what happened? We are so poor in the Soviet Union we had no fruit. The drivers filled the trucks with melons and other fruits and sold them privately. They got fantastically rich. Neither the trucks or the drivers were ever seen again."

"Such things do not happen in prosperous, non-communist countries."

"Those things will change even as it has changed for Russians to marry foreigners like I have done."

"But I would never abandon my homeland. I have my apartment in Moscow and I will keep it."

"I love Russia and I love the Russian people. My motherland is more dear to me than anything. Even if I stay here to make movies, I will always return to my wonderful country."

Charlton Heston

'Thou shalt not show classic films on TV'

By Vernon Scott

HOLLYWOOD, (UPI): If Charlton Heston were to write his own Ten Commandments, the first would be "Thou shalt not show classic films on TV."

Heston, following a victorious couple of sets of tennis on his own court the other morning, took time out to comment on the re-release to theaters of *Cecil B. DeMille's* biblical movie landmark *The Ten Commandments*.

The tall, imposing actor said the principal element in the new prints of the three-hour, 39-minute cavalcade of the life of Moses is in the soundtrack.

"What they've done is increase the number of tracks from one to 12, which truly enhances the picture," he said.

"Nothing else has been changed. No scenes were eliminated or added. It's the full cut of the original, unlike some cut versions which have been seen on the tube. Also there is the joy of not seeing commercial interruptions for toothpaste and fast-food chains."

"For the past 30 years or so *The Ten Commandments* has been seen only on television. I never look at it, but when I appear on TV interviews they intersperse several clips to match what I'm talking about on the air."

"The scene of Moses leading his people out of bondage comes out very puny because in the process the Hebrews are



Charlton Heston: keeping alive his image seen as teeny little dots fading into a soft focus. It's never very impressive.

"As with *Lawrence of Arabia* and *Gone with the Wind*, *The Ten Commandments* was made to be seen on the big screen."

"To put them on the little box with poor colour, poor sound, poor definition is to diminish them."

"I saw the refurbished film with interest at the Cinerama Dome — one of the biggest theatres around — to see the reactions of two generations of filmgoers who think they've seen the picture, but haven't."

"It held up marvelously well, I must say. All the effects looked better, the performances, the whole scope of the film opens out from its cramped dimensions on television."

"The picture is still overpowering, but some of the performances are not overwhelming. There are scenes I (as Moses) could do better now. However, Yul Brynner was flawless as Pharaoh. That's given me some elbow room."

Heston had praise for most of the others in the cast, which included Edward G. Robinson, Anne Baxter, Yvonne De Carlo, Cedric Hardwick, H.B. Warner, Martha Scott and Henry Wilcoxon.

"I was very glad I went back to see the film," he said. "I was gratified at the audience's response."

Although Heston had attained stardom in other movies, including the Oscar-winning *The Greatest Show on Earth*, he credits *The Ten Commandments* for establishing him as an actor who would play more biblical and historic roles than any other of his generation.

"Unquestionably, the film was enormously significant in shaping my career," he said. "It led me to so many biographical roles."

"I've often said a successful actor needs marvelous parts, energy, health and luck. And I've had all of those. You have to have stamina. The luck in my case has been the sequence of extraordinarily good parts."

Playing Moses preceded *Ben Hur*, *El Cid* and many others.

Because the picture is seen so often on television — more even — than *Ben Hur* — it keeps alive my image as a formidable authority figure on the screen.

"I can't really play Jack Lemmon schlemiels or Jack Nicholson wise guys. We all are, to a certain extent, shaped by successful roles that audiences remember."

"I think I have a bit wider range than most because I've played a renaissance prince, pirates, presidents, a cardinal among others, 12 different nationalities in God knows how many different centuries. That's given me some elbow room."

The Ten Commandments will be shown throughout the rest of the year in selected theatres for limited runs in various cities.

"Most people who see it will have seen the picture at least once, not in a theatre then on television," he said.

"Frequently people tell me they've seen the picture only on TV or they've taped it for special occasions. I reply, 'then you haven't really seen the movie.'

"Personally, I think re-releasing classic films like this one, *Lawrence of Arabia* and *Tomb Jones* is important because they are pictures of a kind that can no longer be made."

"The cost of such films is prohibitive. Someone ran a budget on what it would take to make *Ben Hur* today. The total would be \$122.7 million."

"It's exciting. Also confusing. For instance we have about 50 good French movie cameras in

the country, but they are already being used by filmmakers and nobody knows how to get others.

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JUNIOR TIMES

Dear Junior readers,

In order to enhance children's talents, the National Child Culture Centre annually organises a national contest for talented children. The contest is held to give children the opportunity to express themselves through various hobbies like drawing and story writing.

This year, the National Child Culture Centre holds its fourth Talented Child Contest after it witnessed a great response during the past three contests held in 1985, 1986 and 1987.

Conditions to participate in the contest:

1. Participants must be Arabs.
2. The participant should not be over 15-years-old.
3. Art works should include the following information:
 - The full name of the contestant.
 - The full address.
 - Birth date.
 - Nationality.
 - Sex (Male / Female).
 - The title of the drawing, or story entering the contest.
4. Not more than two works in each field, are allowed to enter the contest per participant.
5. All works must be sent before August 15, 1990 to the following address:
The Talented Children Contest
National Child Culture Centre
Al Fanoon City — Al Haram
Egypt
Tel: 536242

Rules:

The Drawing:
1. Should deal with any subject, but preferably those related to the child's environment, expressing future outlooks or preserving environmental safety.

2. Drawings should not be smaller than a page of a regular drawing book.

3. Any drawing tool except pencils may be used.

The Story:
All stories and essays must be written in classical Arabic.

Prizes:

1. The first 25 winners in both drawing and writing will be awarded gold medals.
2. The next fifty winners obtain silver medals.
3. 200 runners-up will be awarded certificates.
4. An annual exhibit is held for distinguished drawings.
5. Winning works will be nominated by referee committees.
6. Winning works will be published in a special binder.

Good Luck.

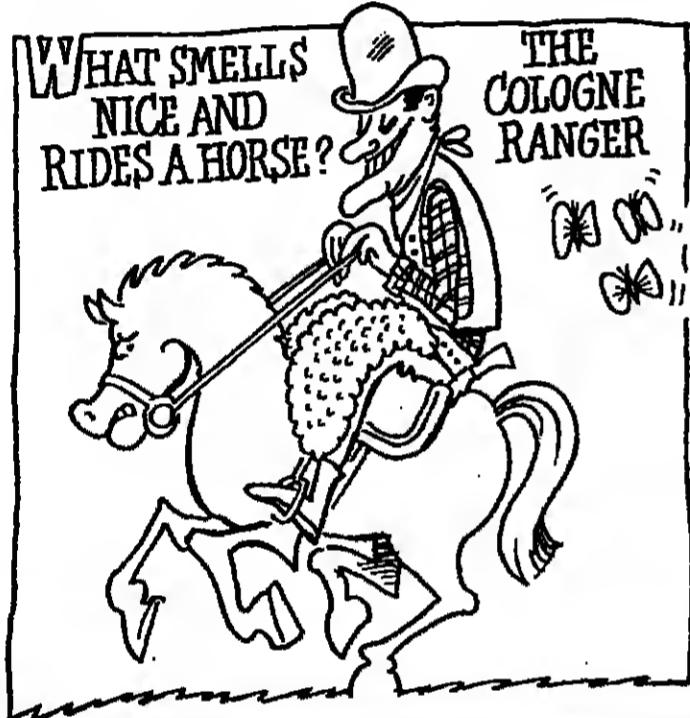
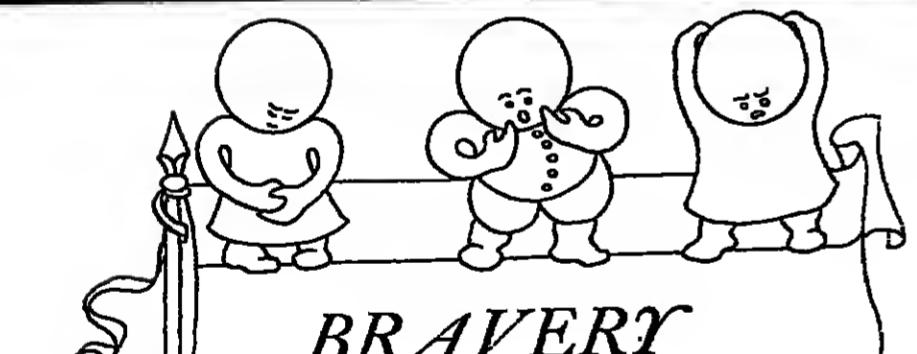
Read the sentences. In each box draw what you think the sentences are talking about.

The boy wants to go to the moon.
He is going to fly there in one of these things.

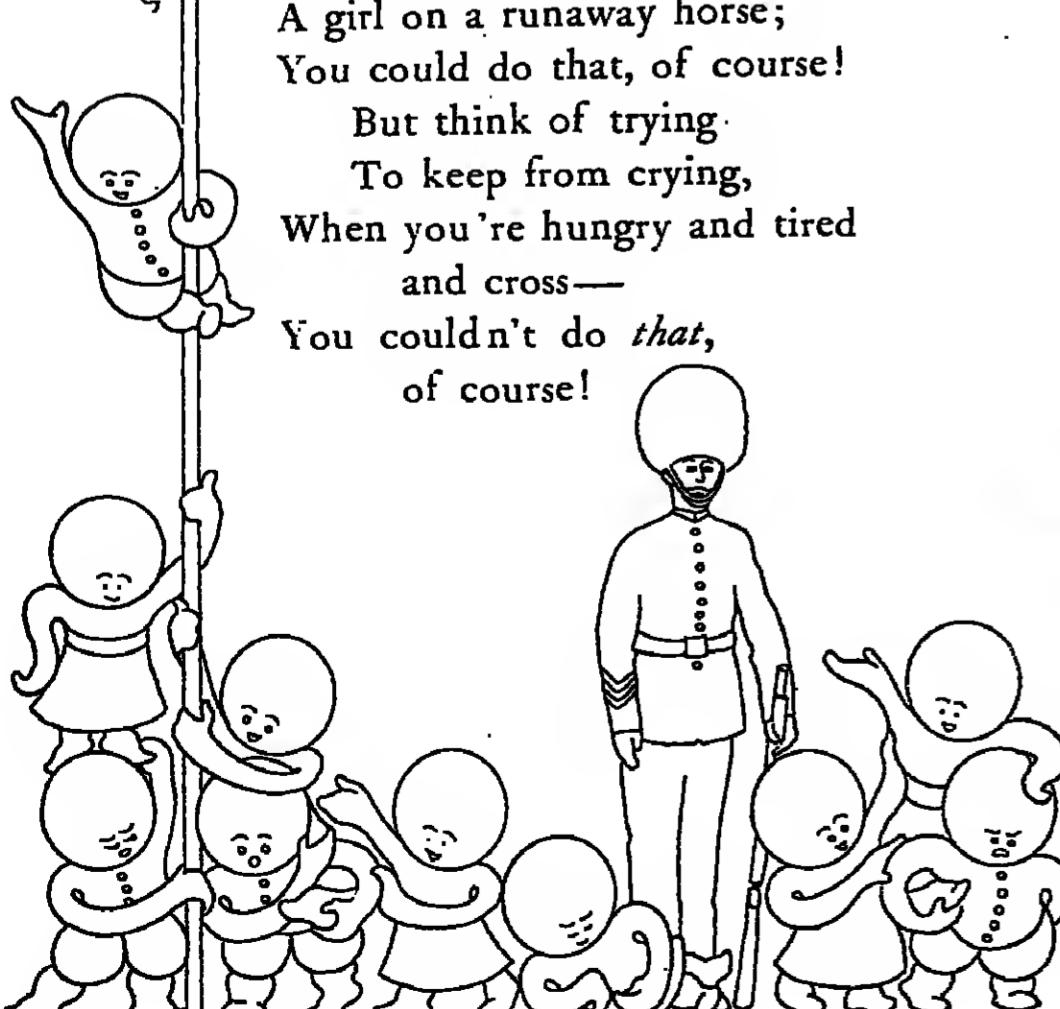


This is the space suit he wants to wear.

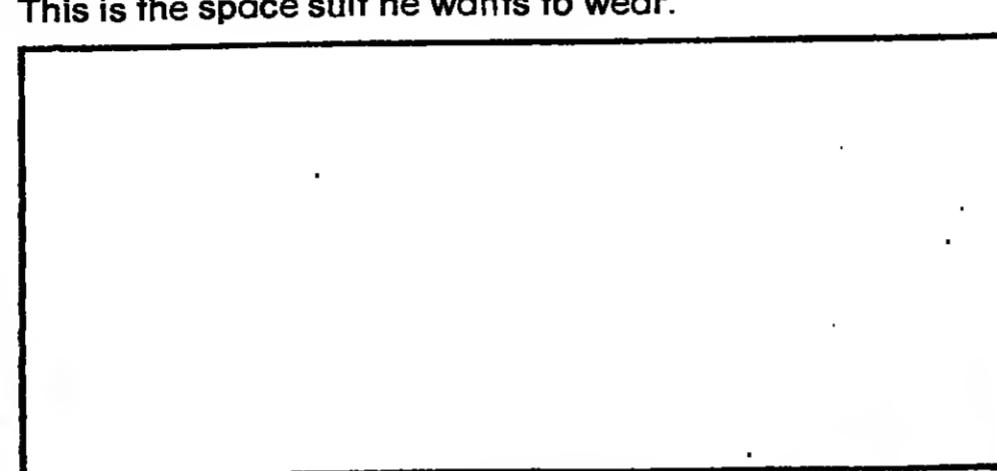
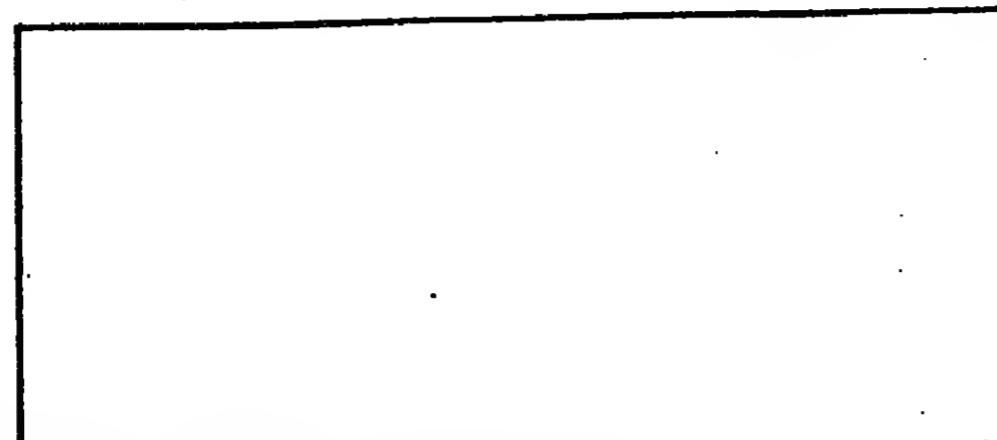
Maal.

**The Goops again****BRAVERY**

It's terrible brave
To try to save
A girl on a runaway horse;
You could do that, of course!
But think of trying.
To keep from crying,
When you're hungry and tired
and cross—
You couldn't do that,
of course!



The boy wants to go to the moon.
He is going to fly there in one of these things.

**Just for laughs!**

'Hello, Ginger!' her brother called cheerily to his sister.
'Don't call me Ginger!' she snapped furiously. 'My hair is the colour of gold.'

'Yeah,' he replied with a jeer, 'twenty-two carrots!'

'How are you getting on with your football, Peter?'
'Well, Dad, pretty good. The sports master said I was one of the team's greatest drawbacks!'

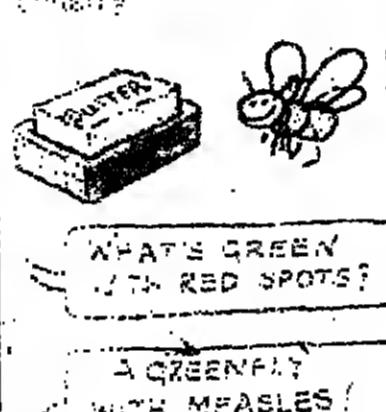
Why is the letter A like a flower?
'Cos the B comes after it.'

Why did the cockerel cross the road?
For his own fowl purposes.

What nut has no shell?
A doughnut.

Word pairs

Look at the ten pictures on the right to give a hidden word. For example, butter mixed with fly (below) gives creamy.

**FIRSTS AND LASTS**

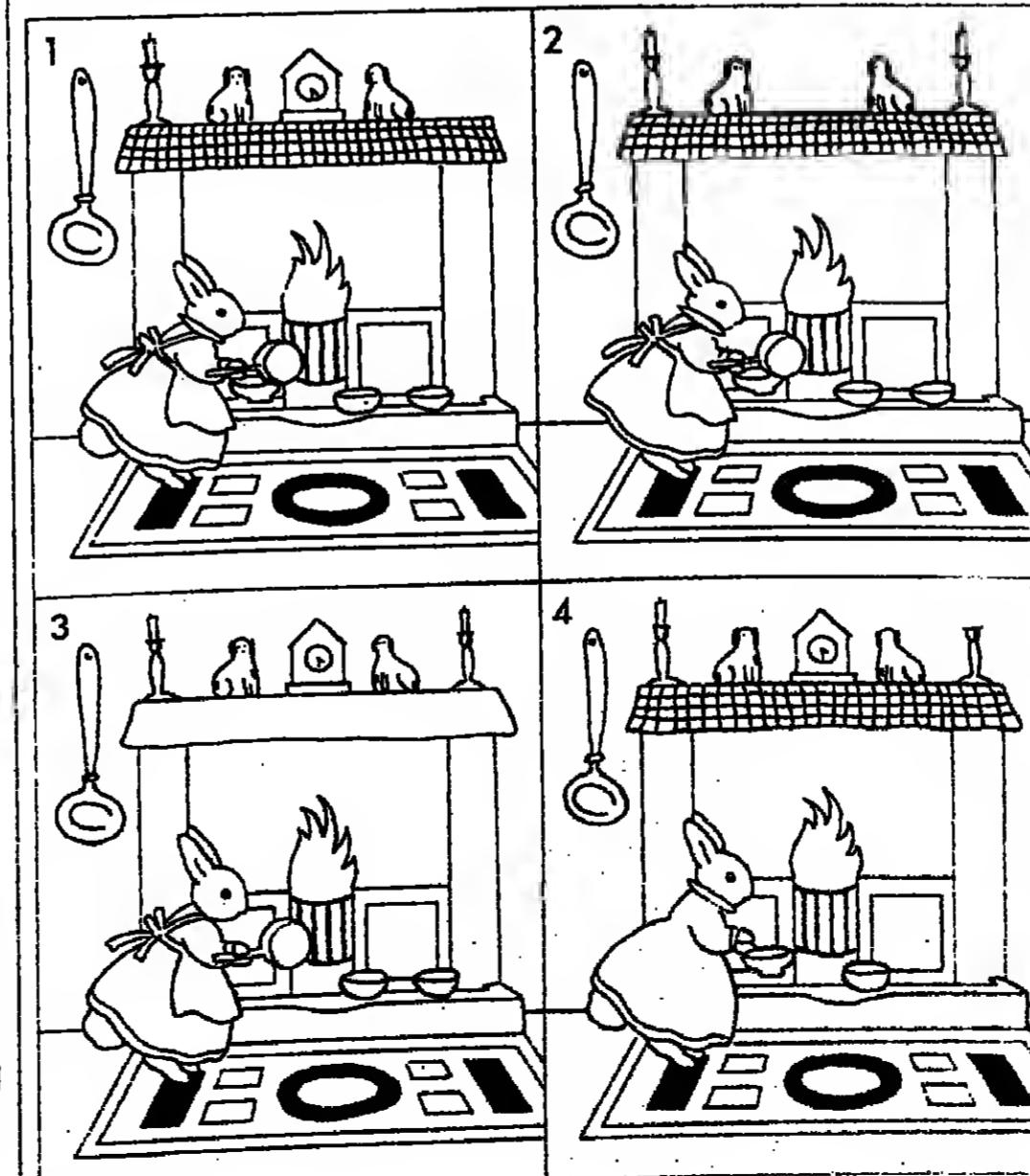
The first thing many South American cowboys, or gauchos as they are called, do before setting out for a day's hard riding, is to put a raw steak under their saddle. The constant bumping up and down throughout the day makes the steak nice and tender by the time they return at night to cook it.

Charles Macintosh, a Scottish chemist, invented the cloth with which the first 'macintosh' was made. They were not well received at first because they are said to have smelt.

The first biscuits had to be cooked twice to prevent them from going stale. The word 'biscuit' comes from the two French words 'bis cuir', which means 'twice cooked.'

What's missing?

There is something missing in each of these four pictures. In the first picture, one thing is missing; in the second, two things are missing; in the third, three things are missing; and in the fourth, four things are missing. What are they?

**Wordsearch****SHAKESPEARE'S CHARACTERS**

BOTTOM	NESTOR
CAPHIS	OBERON
CASCA	OPHELIA
CRESSIDA	OTHELLO
DEMETRIUS	PUCK
EGEUS	SNUG
HAMLET	THESEUS
HELENA	TIMON
HERMIA	TITANIA
KING LEAR	TITUS
LAFEU	TROILUS
MACBETH	VARRO

S	U	I	R	T	E	M	E	D	T	G	K	V
U	H	R	O	T	S	E	N	R	D	I	A	S
E	E	D	A	F	H	T	O	T	N	R	F	S
S	R	G	V	I	I	I	G	R	C	I	Y	
E	M	U	H	T	L	M	L	O	O	H	G	A
T	A	S	S	N	A	F	H	A	D	G	N	N
E	C	L	U	R	O	E	C	P	M	J	E	A
B	S	A	F	E	L	R	U	H	O	L	L	T
C	A	F	C	L	G	C	E	D	G	J	E	I
A	C	E	O	K	K	E	B	H	F	H	T	
M	H	U	G	V	M	O	T	B	F	S		
A	D	C	A	D	I	S	S	E	R	C	V	B

By the pond

1. The children went to the pond for a picnic. They counted 7 turtles, 6 frogs and 3 snails. How many animals were there in all? — — —
2. They found an ant hill with 99 ants in it. 33 ants were going away from the hill. How many stayed on the hill? — — —
3. The children left home at 1 pm. They stayed at the pond until 4pm. How long were they at the pond? — — —
4. The children caught little fish to sell for 10c each. They caught 7 fish. How much money will they collect if they sell all? — — —
5. On the way home the children counted 3 bird's nests. Each nest had 5 eggs in it. How many eggs were there? — — —
6. There were 12 children at the picnic. 9 of them were girls. How many were boys? — — —
7. The children counted 3 kittens, 2 puppies and 5 blue birds on the way home. How many did they count in all? — — —

Amazing facts

A single drop of water contains one hundred billion atoms.

'I cry that I sin' is an anagram of 'Christianity'.

Ainu women of Japan always cover their mouth with one hand when speaking to a man.

Birthday coupon

Is your birthday to come soon?
Are you a regular reader of the Junior Times?
Well, now is the chance to let your friends know that it is your birthday!

Or maybe you would like to surprise your best friend, brother or sister by putting their picture in for them.

The details we need are:

Name: _____

Date of birth: _____

School: _____

Telephone: _____

(confidential)

Send to:

ARAB & TIMES

Junior Times

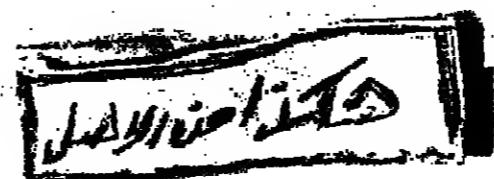
P.O. Box 2270

13023, Safat,

Kuwait

To avoid belated greetings please send within a week before the special date.

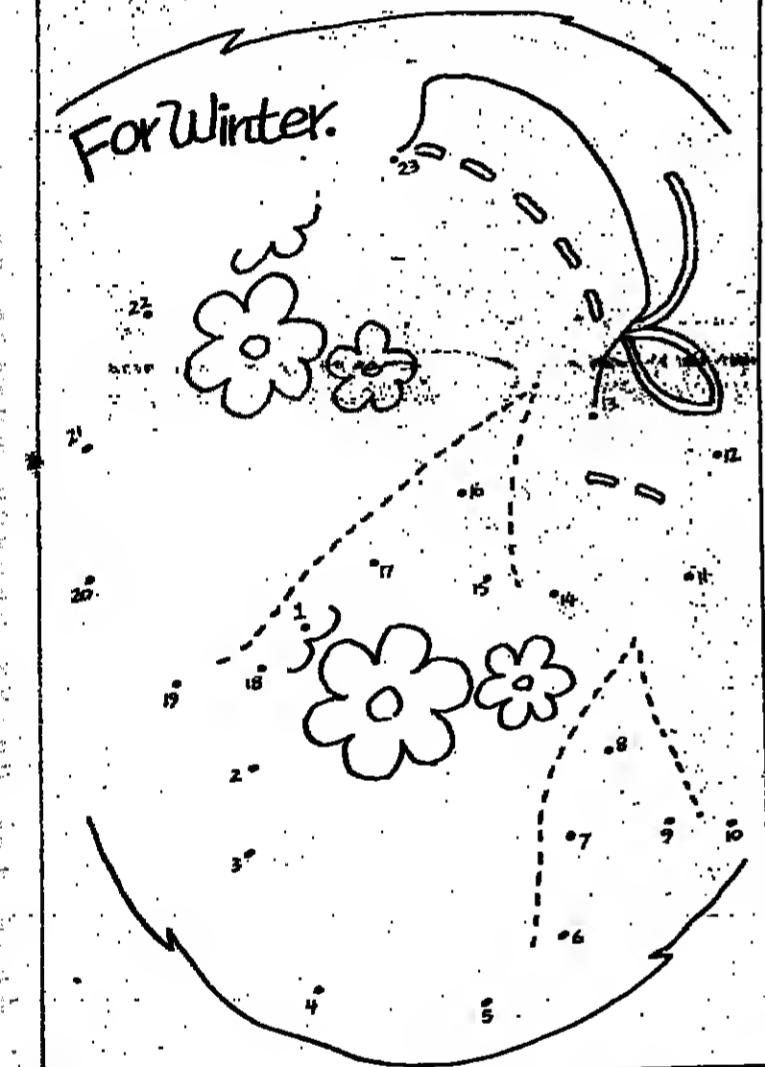
Your favourite most recent picture (4x6)



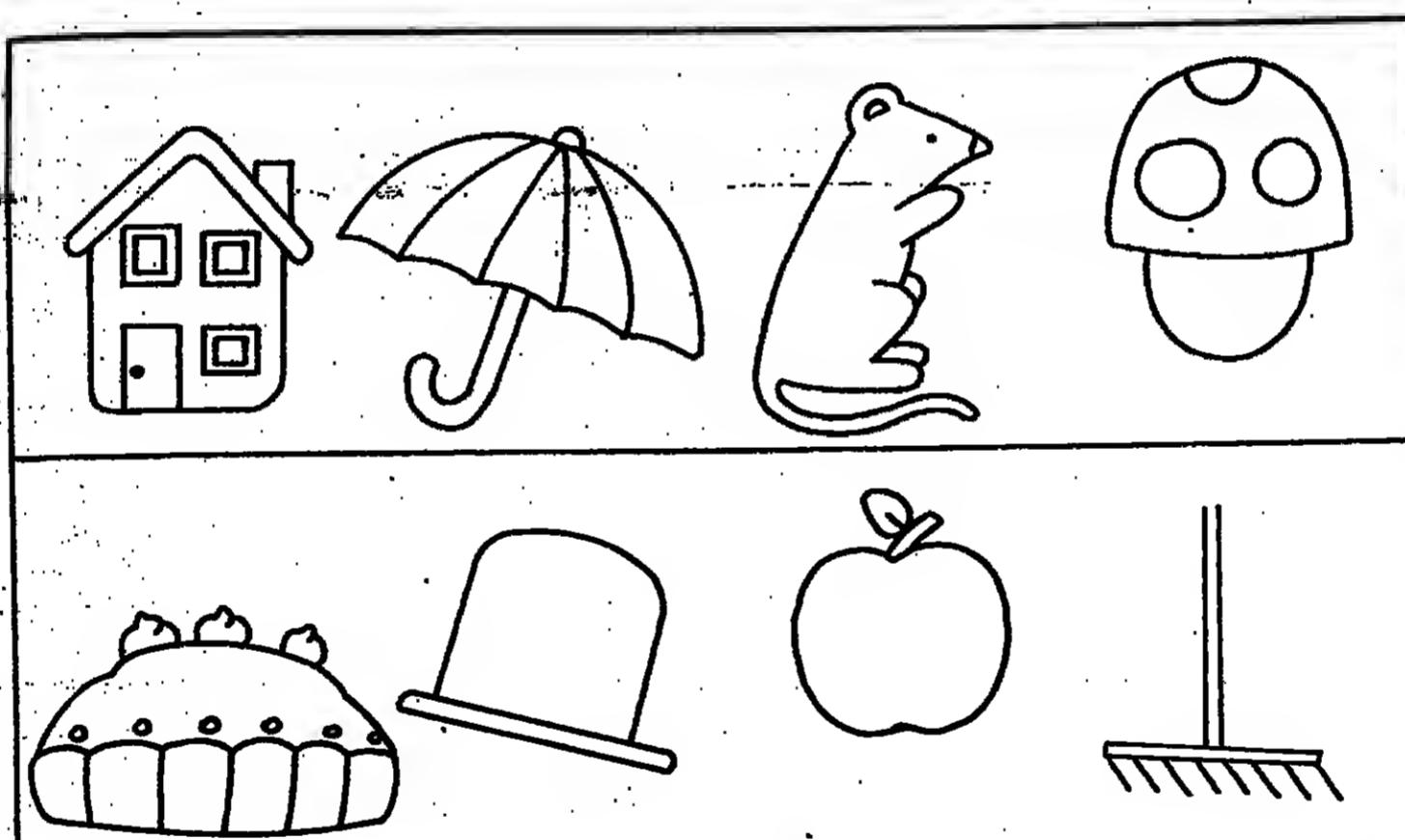
Spot the differences between these two pictures



Join the dots

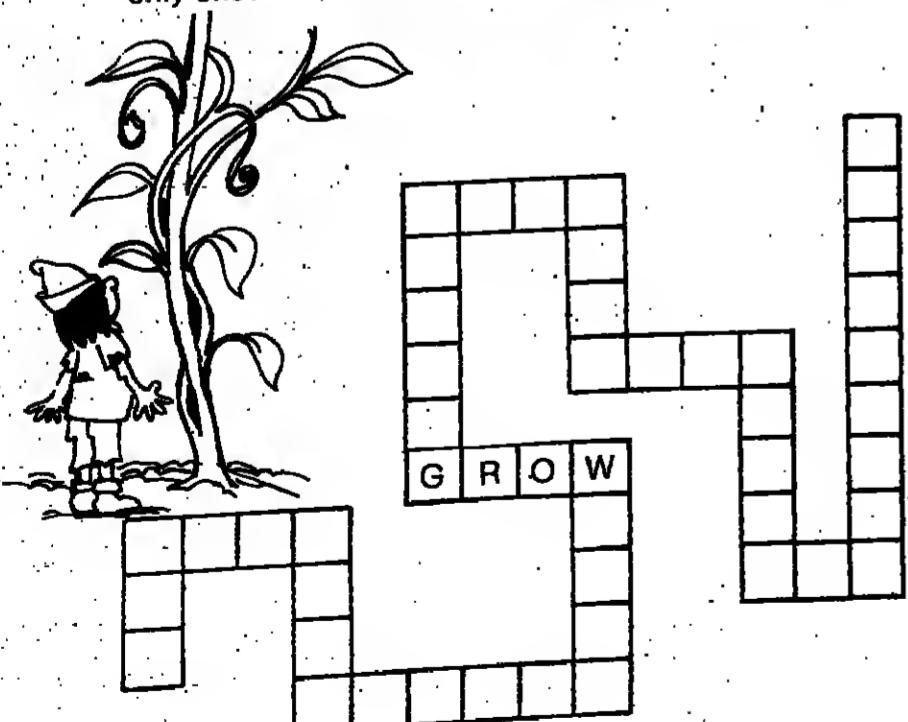


Find the words in each line that sound the same.



It Will Grow On You

Directions: Place the words from this list in the boxes to form a continuous path. Place one letter in each box. Corner letters are shared. Use each word only once. One word has been done for you. (GROW)



Word List:

seed
hoe
Spring
fertilize

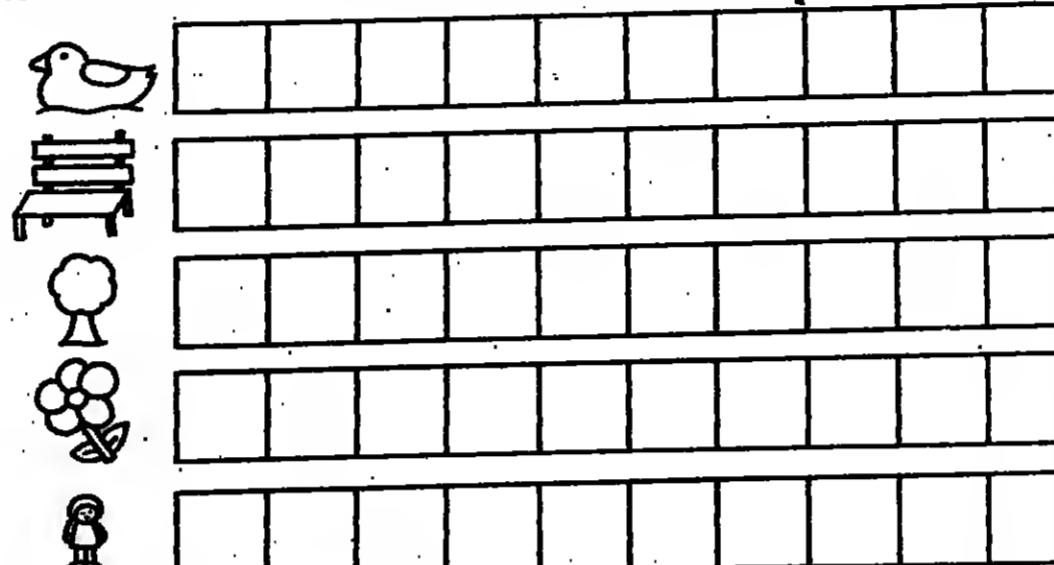
tree
flower
water

grow
sun
dirt

soil
leaf
earth

In the park

How many ducks, seats, flowers, trees and children can you find? Colour the right number of boxes for each one.



Rhymes

Find the words in each line that sound the same.

Happy birthday



Vineeta Nayani turns 9 on June 1



Anjali Oberoi turned 11 on May 27



Marlon Pereira turns 2 on June 2



Sonia Parekh on June 3



Manal Ishraq turns 16 on May 31



Sayed Ahmed turned 10 on May 26



Asem Sarfraz turned 17 on May 29



Nita Bhatkar turned 14 on May 22

Just for laughs!

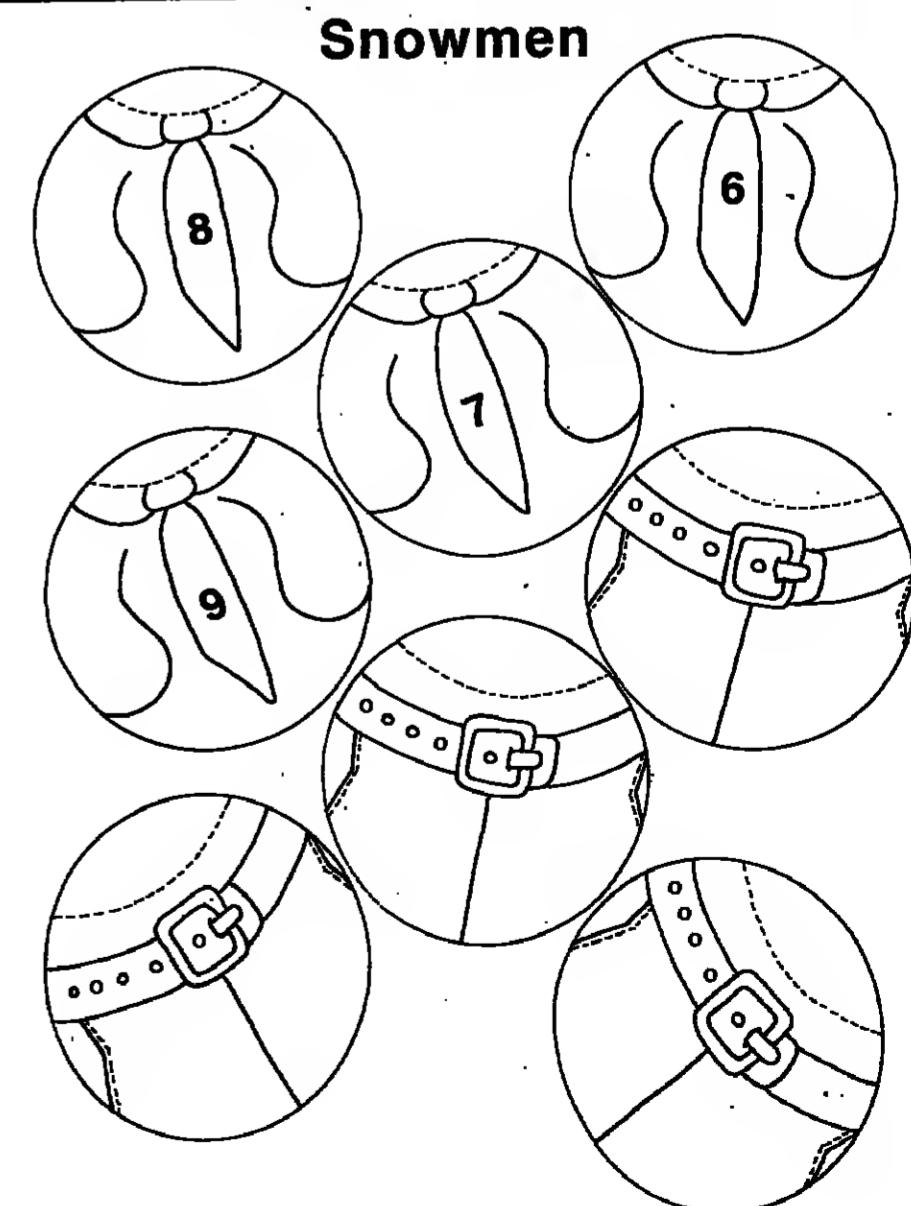
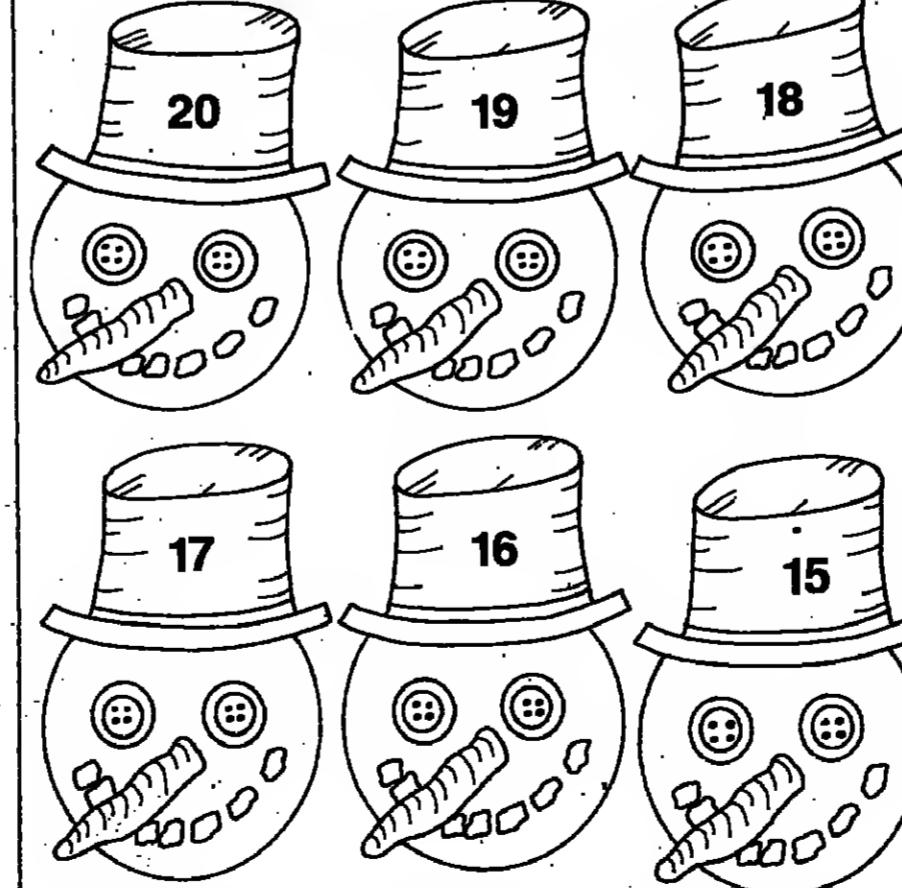
What did one ghost say to the other ghost?
'I simply do not believe in people.'

Where do witches live by the sea?
Sand-witch.

Why do witches fly about on broomsticks?
Because vacuum-cleaners don't have long enough cords.

What did the ghost guard say?
'Who ghosts there?'

Snowmen



Each snowman has three parts . . . a head, a tummy, and pants. Choose any three parts to build your snowman. Then subtract the snowman's tie number from his hat number. Write your answer on his pants.
Make lots of snowmen!

VIDEO CORNER

How to lose a million and get it back

By Shaun Seeke

NOT A PENNY MORE, NOT A PENNY LESS. is a new mini-series based on a best-selling book written by Jeffrey Archer. Edward Asner plays the American financier, Harvey Metcalfe, who has swindled his way to amassing a fortune. Setting up a big scam he sends young Harvard graduate David Kesler (Nicolás Colicos) to London, apparently to manage the development side of Spectra Oil. The gullible Kesler contacts his old college friend Stephen Bradley (Ed Begley Jr), who is now a mathematics professor at Oxford, and persuades him to buy a large block of Spectra shares. He next convinces Jean-Pierre Lamans (François Gendron), the French proprietor of an art gallery in London, to invest all his savings. Continuing on his way he meets James Briley (Brian Protheroe) an English aristocrat who gambles his family's heritage on making a fortune. Finally, he lets a successful Harley Street doctor into the 'secret.' Robin Oakley (Nicolas Jones), who wants to secure his son's future.

When Metcalfe pulls the plug, the four investors are left financially ruined, and Kesler flees to the States, but only after Bradley has forced him to confess to the scam and to Metcalfe's involvement. The victims then decide to concoct a series of outrageous 'stings' in order to recuperate their money, making sure they'll get *'Not A Penny More, Not A Penny Less.'*

The gambits include selling a fake oil masterpiece to art lover Asner, making him pay through the nose for a fake operation and selling him a phoney Oxford degree.

The book was inspired by Jeffrey Archer's own bitter experience of losing a million dollars in a bad investment. 'The first half of the book is pretty near how I got conned out of my money, the second half is how I would have loved to have got it back,' Archer comments.

The Kissing Place is a good suspense thriller, starring 11-year-old Nathaniel Moreau as Tommy Tulane, a young boy who is having terrible dreams. He lives

in the Midwest. Tommy, although he's seen his birth certificate, isn't sure that he's really Tommy Tulane. The first major break comes when his behaviour at school worries teacher Edelson (Victoria Snow), but it takes awhile. Poking around, overhearing conversations, Tommy begins to realize that he's not who he's supposed to be.

Buried Alive stars Tim Matheson and Jennifer Jason Leigh in an exciting revenge thriller. Leigh plays a faithless wife who is persuaded by her lover to poison her husband in a bizarre way, using an extract from a tropical fish. But the dose she administers is not enough and he doesn't quite die. He discovers the truth after escaping from the grave and exacts a ruthless revenge on the unfaithful couple.

Caroline is a superior who-dun-it star-

ring Stephanie Zimbalist. Did Caroline die fifteen years ago in a plane crash? Is it her who has returned? Does her father believe her? Plenty to keep you guessing until the final scenes.

Fall From Grace tells a story of Jim and Tammy Bakker, a behind the scenes look at a scandal that was the talk of America.

How their multi-million dollar world collapsed when his indiscretion was revealed.

For family viewing the latest release from Walt Disney is **Cheetah**. It's always reassuring to know that among all the shooting and killings we can always rely on Disney to supply the soft fluffy animals, wholesome children and happy-ever-after endings. Californian teenagers Todd and Susan go out to Kenya where their parents are working for the summer. There they meet up with a young Masai boy Morogo who takes them on lots of adventures in the bush. On one outing they come across an orphaned cheetah cub which they take home to rear. But when they have to return to school at the end of summer they are faced with the problem of returning the tame Duma to the wild.

The above films are by courtesy of The Video Club, Salma, Tel. 5724372; Fintas Towers; Safeway Complex, Farwaniya; Salha Complex, Kuwait City.

Edward Asner plays Harvey Metcalfe in *Not A Penny More, Not A Penny Less.*

Primary grade students.



Grade 3 dance.



Grade 1 students.



Pre-primary dancers.

WHAT'S ON

Arts

Boushahri Gallery
A MONTH-LONG exhibition of paintings by eight Arab artists is now being held at the Boushahri Gallery, North Salma Bldg, Salem Al Mubarak St. The works of such artists as Jafar Ishaq, Jafar Kaki, Rashed Diyab, Dia Al Azza and Saleh Jamee' are on show. Open daily from 9 am to 12.30 pm; 4 to 7.30 pm; until month end.

Theatre

PAC show cancelled
June 7: The PAC committee has cancelled the event scheduled for June 7 at Sharq Hall due to the demise of their chief adviser Shafi Saani on May 25. A new date will be announced later.

IAC One-Act Play Contest

May 30: Madhu and Friends present *Kritihe Nann*; Malayalam: Stage Index perform *Shanti Parvam*, Malayalam.

May 31: Bengali Cultural Society's *Muriich Singhada*; Bengali: IAC badminton team perform *Chanteeran and His Clan*; Malayalam: Natya Bharati present *Kafan*.

Ishroud: Hindi. June 1: Award Nite and Entertainment Show, followed by dinner at 7 pm.

All performances at JAC, Funaites: 7.30 pm. For details call 3904817. Entry passes for all performances, including Award Nite are available from IAC.

Konkani Play
June 15: 5 pm. IAC, Funaites. The K.C.W.A. will perform a Konkani play *Tho Makka Naka*. Gate passes now available. For details contact Charles Vas - Tel: 4312952.

Social
Daniella Coffee Morning
June 3: The next coffee morning for Dances will take place at 9.30 am, Kuwait International Hotel. For details call Inge: 3727688 ext. 207.

LIL
June 4: LIL will hold Latino programme: Regency Palace Hotel: 8 pm sharp; doors open: 6 pm. close: 7.45 pm. No one will be allowed to enter after programme begins. Door charge. Extravaganza features performers from Columbia, Bolivia, Argentina and other Latin countries.

Kuwait Players AGM
JUNE 4: Kuwait Players annual general meeting, 8 pm, Al Foz, Messilah Beach Hotel.

PAC membership
THE Pakistan Arts Circle (veterans) have launched a membership campaign. All Pakistanis are welcome. Membership forms available from PAC. For details contact A S Qureshi (5716388); A S Ghazali (5631815); N Khan (4843578); Z Butt (2414570).

Sport

Daniella bowling
June 7: Daniella ends social season by inviting all Dames for a relaxed bowling evening. 7 pm. For details of venue contact Helmuth - Tel: 3715619; or Winnie - 573382.

Hotels

Al Salam
Al Bendar Coffee Shop. Arabic and Continental buffets, lunch and dinner; also a la carte; open 6 am to midnight.

At the Holiday Inn
Al Ahmadi Coffee Shop. breakfast, lunch and dinner buffets -- Continental and Oriental cuisine.

At the SAS
Bistro: Sunday/Wednesday

— pasta night; Italian music. Peacock Room: Chinese cuisine; lunch and dinner.

Al Boom, Kuwaiti experience: charcoal grilled food, plus mezze buffets.

Clock snack bar - burgers, french fries, etc.

At the Meridian
La Brasserie Restaurant

Wednesday: Indonesian Cor-

ner, cuisine prepared in front of

you.

Thursday: Jazz Night -- jazz

music, seafood specialties.

Friday: Oriental luncheon buffet; family day.

Versailles Business lunch and dinner featuring fondue, grilled food.

French food promotion: until May 31, specialities from Provence, south of France, will be featured in the Versailles Restaurant.

At the Holiday Inn
Al Ahmadi Coffee Shop. breakfast, lunch and dinner buffets -- Continental and Oriental cuisine.

At the Plaza
Al Dallah Coffee Shop. interna-

tional cuisine; open buffet plus menu.

Lolowah Corner, snacks and refreshing summer drinks.

Marco Polo Italian

ambience and cuisine, particularly pasta.

At the Messilah Beach
Al Mubarakiya: open Around the clock; seafood promotion on Wednesdays, 7 pm; Fridays -- Middle Eastern cuisine.

Al Jawharah: Thursday

special -- special menu: music by Rainbow Band.

Al Berdawneh BBQ on Thurs-

day in beach-garden restau-

rant; Lebanese food.

Competition

Approb Essay Competition
THE Association of Pakistani Professionals and Businessmen holds an essay competition. Essays on "My Role in Building a Better Pakistan" can be submitted by Pakistani students. Open to juniors (12-14); seniors (15-18). Essays between 1,000 and 1,500 words can be written in English and Urdu.

Send essays to Approb, P.O. Box 2351, Salma, 22024, Kuwait. Last date for entries: May 31. For details contact 2425315.

Music

Summer Rock Concert
June 4/5/6: High Spirits and Seventh Sky rock concert; music from Police, Dire Straits, Bon Jovi, Guns 'n' Roses etc. For reservations call 5387998/2563395 after 5 pm.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

9.00 Holy Quran
9.15 Kaala: cartoons
9.45 Good Morning: magazine show
10.00 Magazine d'Actualité (repeat)
10.15 Wajhat Nazar: Arabic serial
11.00 Good Morning: Open University
11.15 Huwar Wa Nagham: prepared by Khaled Bu Hamad, directed by Ibrahim Al Kazemi.
1.00 News Summary
1.05 World News via Satellite
1.30 Variety programme
2.00 Animal World
3.15 God's Creation: religious programme
3.35 Liqa Al Kbameel: local programme, rounding up social news
5.00 Sally: cartoon serial
6.00 Ayyam Al Ramad: Arabic serial; starring Osama Al Mashini, Mohammad Ibad, Abeer Issa, Rabee Shihab
7.00 Wib: Students: educational programme
8.00 Kul Al Funoon: focus on arts, presented by Rasha Magdi
8.30 With Islam
9.00 News in Arabic
9.45 Muzzakarat Zawi: Arabic serial
7.00 Wib: Students: educational programme
8.00 Kul Al Funoon: focus on arts, presented by Rasha Magdi
8.30 With Islam
9.00 News in Arabic
9.45 Muzzakarat Al Zawi: Arabic serial
10.30 Late Night Variety Show
11.45 World News via Satellite
12.05 Holy Quran/Closedown

ARAB TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, MAY 31-JUNE 1, 1990



'Beauty and the Beast' on KTV 2 tonight:

are captured on camera for this show.
10.30 Thursday Night Movie: "Under the Rainbow."
12.00 News in Brief
12.10 Magazine D'Actualité/Closedown

FRIDAY

6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Popeye and Son: Cartoons
6.30 Family Feature Film: "The Legend of Young Dick Turpin": The adventures of Dick, who runs away from his farm to find a better life in London. On the way, he overcomes many obstacles.
8.00 News in English
8.45 Globe TV: "A Ticket to the World": Global television magazine shows -- looking at the global village.
9.30 Weekend: feature on new hazardous waste recycling plant; Murgab Highway Project introducing new spot Around Kuwait. Regular: features music, spot... sneak preview.
10.00 Tales from the Dark-side: Strange and bizarre stories are featured in this serial. Tonight, a man dreams he has been compelled to stop smoking...
10.30 Wiscguy: "Day Four" General Masters' plot against Vinnie and Frank comes to light.
11.30 News in Brief
11.40 Magazine D'Actualité/Closedown

KTV 2

PRAYERS

Fajr	3.16 am
Zehr	11.46
Asr	3.20 pm
Magrib	6.42
Isha	8.12

FRIDAY

Fajr	3.15 am
Friday Prayer	11.46
Asr	3.20 pm
Magrib	6.43
Isha	8.13

CINEMA

Al Andalus
Hanafi Al Ubbeh (Arabic)
Starring: Adel Imam, Huda Ramzi, Farouk Fishawi
Al Sabaya
Al Raqqash Wal Siyasi (Arabic)
Starring: Nabila Obaid, Salam Qabil
Al Hamra
Hanafi Al Ubbeh (Arabic)
Drive-in
Al Raqqash Wal Siyasi (Arabic)
Al Firdous
Qatil (Hindi)
Starring: Aditya Pancholi, Sanjeev Bijlani
Fahadh Open Air
Sikka (Hindi)
Al Fahad
Bar Bhai (Bengali)
Al Jaha
"Laila wa..." (Arabic)
Granada
Split
Selahikhat
Carnival (Malayalam)
Al Jeel
Waqt Ki Awaz (Hindi)
Ahmed Drive-In
Al Raqqash Wal Siyasi (Arabic)

FRIDAY

Al Jaha
Welcome to 18
Granada
Alley Cat
Selahikhat
Radio Active Dreams
Al Jeel
Mera Jeevan Saathi (Hindi)



Hopeful news about hair regrowth

The Upjohn Company is now marketing Regaine, a new product that stimulates hair regrowth in a significant percentage of women, suffering from hairloss. For best results with Regaine a woman must bear in mind the following:

- Regaine must be applied to the scalp and not to the hair, in order to be effective.
- Regaine bottles come with three metered disposable applicators and the extended spray applicator will work best for female users.
- Regaine must be applied twice a day in order to be effective.
- Following application of Regaine, the users should refrain from swimming, showering or otherwise rinsing the scalp, for at least four hours.
- Regaine offers a standardised formulation for pharmaceutical elegance, purity, and consistent level of the active ingredient.

"Regaine is a breakthrough in the treatment of hairloss in men and women," said Dr Ihsan Jarrah, Upjohn Manager Kuwait and Gulf. He also added that Regaine is now available in Kuwait and the Gulf, in addition to many other countries in the world, including U.S.A., U.K., Canada, France and Belgium.

ARAB TIMES Classifieds

دُوَّتْ وَمَكْلَفْ زَيْرِيْسْ
HAJ PROGRAMME
Departs — 23.6.90.
Arrival Kuwait — 6.7.90
Stay in Medina — one day
For contact — 4859137 - 4857982

جَمِيعِ مُحَاجِنَاتِيْسْ
Jamal Al-Ghanim
Cargo Services
DOOR TO DOOR
Call Volly 2414144 2442028 2442027

FOR RENT

Villas, half villas, flats, complete buildings, offices in all areas in Kuwait with or without swimming pool

Qatar Real Estate
Tele. 2406592,
2406593

REQUIRED

One qualified auto-electrician-cum-mechanic: with 8-10 years' experience to work independently for a well-established shop in Solimya on 50/50 profit or salary. Good opportunity for a real smart and responsible person. Must have transferable residence. Tel: 5655284; MAHMOUD.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

Part-time Computer Techs

to maintain networking, PC computer & accessories
Send C.V. to: P.O. Box 11001,
Al Desmash 35151

REQUIRED

A beauty saloon in Farwaniya requires:
First-class female hairdressers and helpers.

Applicants with health cards are preferred.

Call Tel. 4767323
Madam Khaleda

REQUIRED

Qualified civil work engineers and site supervisors:

Experienced in telephone network outside plant construction.

Call: 2438284

VACANCY

for a showroom

"Salesman Assistant"

enjoying the following:

1. Transferable labour residence.
2. Having valid Kuwaiti Driving Licence.

Only those who fulfill the above conditions should contact Tel. 2530728.

For Rent

Several types of muhaq/flats/half villas/storerooms available in all parts of Kuwait. Behind Firdous Cinema (Sharg) muhaq/storeroom (20 sqm) - Rent KD100. Pls contact: Galib, Tel. 2404740/2420352 (R.E. Services) Fax: 2407734.

Miscellaneous

FOR SALE video, Vega betamax, 3 system, rarely used, like new. Tel. 3725619. (AT4-52882-3)

SALWA Area 7, House 15, Street 3rd floor. One room for a couple or single person to share with a family. Ask for Mrs. Paul. (AT4-52863-3)

DELUXE rooms fully furnished with tele. and central AC. Rent KD100, beside Mendiad for Filipino couples and ladies only. Tel. 2407525. (AT2-52832-6)

FULLY furnished single bedroom flat, CAC, with large drawing room, in excellent location and household articles in very good condition. Reasonable price. Rent KD135, including maintenance of sanitary installations. Tel. 5745276. (AT5-52894-3)

ZODIAC inflatable completed with 25HP outboard and trailer in perfect working order. Price KD250. Tel. 5632484, after 3 pm. (AT4-52880-3)

16 CHANNEL Montarbo sound mixer, 10 speakers (heavy power), guitars, effects, microphones, cables, etc. in tip-top condition. Flat 10, Building 240, Area 1, Juleeb Al Shiyookh. Tel. 4317223, S.K. Deula. (AT5-52893-3)

LASER dinghy (one man), new sail, trailer cover and all cordage plus many extras. Owner leaving Kuwait. KD300. Tel. 5320751, between 5 and 7 pm. (AT5-52891-2)

FOR SALE

Boats

REQUISITE

World Cup mirrors realities of Italian life

ROME. May 30. (Reuters) When Italy won the right to stage next month's World Cup many saw the soccer spectacular as a perfect opportunity to show off a dynamic modern country.

But the image that has emerged has often been the opposite — bureaucratic chaos and delay rather than efficiency and elan.

Preparation for the month-long tournament have in fact perfectly mirrored the twin realities of everyday Italian life — brilliant dynamism and invention dragged back by political squabbling and the suffocating weight of bureaucratic red tape.

For the World Cup the result of this eternal conflict has been spiraling costs and chronic delays that put construction projects desperately behind schedule.

World Cup organisational supreme Luca di Montezemolo has expressed increasing disillusion about the difficulties of staging a major sporting event in this country as the June 8 kick-off draws closer.

He said with biting sarcasm recently: "It was logical that in Italy everything should be done at the last minute. It would be absurd to expect anything different."

The final deadline for completing World Cup projects, including stadiums, slipped first from October to April, then from April to May 15.

Systems

But even after that date passed, dozens of roads, car parks, transport systems and even some stadiums remained unfinished. Construction gangs are working day and night to finish in time.

Costs have nearly doubled and now stand at an awesome \$5.7 billion.

Trade unions claim the last minute scramble to be ready forced safety standards to be ignored, contributing to the deaths of 24 workers on World Cup projects. This is 15 times higher than the average accident rate.

"For us the game has already been lost," said union leader Giorgio Benvenuto and workers have withdrawn a promise of a strike truce during the competition.

Montezemolo has bitterly complained that although Italy had six years to prepare for the World Cup little happened until the last minute. Most projects started only last summer.

As the May 15 deadline passed Montezemolo said: "It really seems that in some cases the stadiums will be ready only at the last minute when the teams come to the pitch and the referee blows his whistle for the kick-off."

He believes the difficulties he faces are a microcosm of problems crippling Italy itself.

Montezemolo says his Italia 90 organising committee functioned well, largely due to the help given by private companies who contributed know-how and staff. Italia 90 expects to make a profit of \$15 million.

But Montezemolo says the organisation of the sporting extravaganza has been constantly obstructed by a Byzantine political system that requires months or even years of back corridor haggling before a consensus can be formed to approve major projects.

There have been six Italian governments since Italy was awarded the World Cup in 1984, not to mention four city administrations in Rome and four in Naples. The two cities where delays have been most serious.

The life of Italian cities is paralysed by procedures by bureaucracy and by political crises. The greatest real problem of this country is the difficulty in passing from planning to implementation," Montezemolo said.

"We have so many positive aspects but the real illness of this nation is an excess of pluralism. We must have a country where it is possible to make decisions. I envy nations with two parties, one of opposition and one of government," he said.

Sports Minister Carlo Tognoli also blames the delays on local government squabbles. "It's all the cities' fault. They argued too much. All the procedures allowed work to start in good time," he said.

Many World Cup-related projects have been abandoned and others will not be completed until long after the final goal has been scored and the roar of the crowds has faded.

But if the delays, mix-ups and chaos in the build-up to the World Cup were typically Italian, so too was the astonishing speed at which work has been completed at the 11th hour.

Projects which a few weeks ago looked like chaotic, abandoned building sites have suddenly blossomed into car parks complete with hurriedly planted trees or new transport systems that may help unravel the traffic chaos of Italian cities.

A rail link from Rome airport to the city, which cynics believed would never be completed in time, went into operation this week.

"Miracles have been performed for the World Cup," said Montezemolo, while Rome Mayor and former Sports Minister Franco Carraro summed it all up when he said: "We are lazy planners but great improvisors."



Agassi hits a backhand to Sloane. (Reuters wirephoto)



Sabatini hits a backhand to Sloane. (Reuters wirephoto)

SPORTS BRIEFS

Cameroon list

ROME. May 30. (AP) Soccer officials today released final rosters of teams competing in the World Cup tournament, but a spokesman for the International Soccer Federation, Fifa said Cameroon failed to submit its list and could be fined. The Italian news agency Ansa, citing a Cameroon soccer federation official, said the missing list had been sent to Fifa by telex from Yugoslavia where the team was training.

Arsenal forward

GLASGOW. May 30. (Reuters) Scotland's Premier Division soccer club, Glasgow Celtic have signed Arsenal forward Martin Hayes for £650,000 (\$1.1). Hayes, a former England under-21 player, has signed a three-year contract.

Cup workers

ROME. May 30. (AP) A civic group will present a plaque at Rome's main soccer stadium tomorrow honouring workers killed in World Cup construction projects. The organisation said yesterday.

Romanian team

BUCHAREST, Romania. May 30. (AP) President-elect Ion Iliescu sent Romania's soccer team off to the World Cup in Italy yesterday with a promise of bonuses if it is successful.

"We are optimistic about the team's chances in the World Cup and we will compensate them as other countries do," Iliescu said.

Volleyball tourney

NAIROBI. May 30. (UPI) Egypt has been nominated by the African

Sabatini outlasts Sloane

Agassi, Graf win easily

PARIS. May 30. (AP) The purge of top seeds at the French Open stopped today. Andre Agassi, the top man left in the tournament overcame a sluggish start to win in straight sets and women's first seed Steffi Graf breezed despite allergy problems.

Fourth-seeded Gabriela Sabatini also won, although she blew two match points in the second set before advancing to the third round as well.

A day after No.1 Stefan Edberg and No.2 Boris Becker were eliminated to leave him atop the men's draw, the third-seeded Agassi moved his screaming shots to centre court and beat Canadian qualifier Todd Woodbridge 7-5, 6-1, 6-3.

The American struggled early, blowing a 4-0 first-set lead and holding off five set points. He turned it around just as quickly and allowed Woodbridge just four games the rest of the way.

There was none of the surliness that marked Agassi's first-round victory. In fact, he was cheered wildly by thousands of children at the tournament for a school holiday, and did some showboating at the end, hitting the ball into the stands after match point and jumping over the net.

"I went out today with the feeling, 'the first two seeds got beat.' Boris and Stefan getting beat helped me in that respect. You can't take anything for granted," he said.

Graf beat Jennifer Santrock 6-1, 6-2 and said afterward that she was troubled by sinus and ear problems diagnosed as an allergy to "something in Paris — the clay, the air or something."

She has had similar medical problems at past French Opens.

"I was wondering why I was always getting it here," Graf said. "The doctor says I will be alright in 2-3 days."

The way Graf played against Santrock, there was not even a hint she was feeling less than 100 per cent.

Qualifying

Santrock made the tournament as a "lucky loser" from qualifying when former champion Hana Mandlikova withdrew with an injury. She won her first-round match over Britain's Sarah Loosmore, but against Graf her luck ran out.

The world's top women's player, out to regain the French Open title, breezed through the first set and broke in the fifth game of the second set, wrapping up the victory in just 51 minutes.

Sabatini had a tougher time before defeating American Susan Sloane 6-0, 5-7, 6-1. Sloane fought off two match points in the eighth game of the second set, then won five straight games to tie the match at a set piece.

She was up 30-0 in the first game of the third set when Sabatini started playing as she had in the first-set shutout.

"That was a big game," Sloane said. "If I had won that game ..."

Sabatini broke serve and after dropping her own in the second game, won five in a row to finish out the match and the threat of another upset.

Also among the winners on the third day of the clay-court Grand Slam were eighth-seeded Andrei Chesnokov of the Soviet Union, who beat Jean-Philippe Fleurer of France 7-6, 6-1, 6-0; 13th seeded Jim Courier of the United States, who beat Milan Sjereb of Czechoslovakia 7-6, 6-1, 2-6, 6-2; and 1988 runner-up Henri Leconte, 16-2, 6-1 winner over Bruno Oresar of Yugoslavia. Women's 11th seed Jana Novotna also advanced with a 6-1, 6-1 victory over Brenda Schulz of the Netherlands.

Plenty went wrong for Edberg and Becker yesterday.

Two European teenagers, Sergi Bruguera and Goran Ivanisevic, knocked the top two seeds out of a Grand Slam tournament in the first round for the first time in history, and left the men's field wide open.

"I think this is going to be one of the most exciting French Opens, because someone unexpected could win it," Courier said.



Ivanisevic celebrates after eliminating Becker on Tuesday. (Reuters wirephoto)



Agassi balances his racket on his head during his match against Woodbridge. (Reuters wirephoto)

Aouita to race in Dream Mile

OSLO. May 30. (Reuters) Said Aouita, Abdi Bile and Peter Elliott will all run in the Dream Mile at Oslo's Bislett Games on July 14, meeting director Svein Arne Hansen said today.

Hansen said the organisers also hoped that Steve Cram, who set the current world record of three minutes 46.32 seconds in the 1985 Dream Mile, would take part.

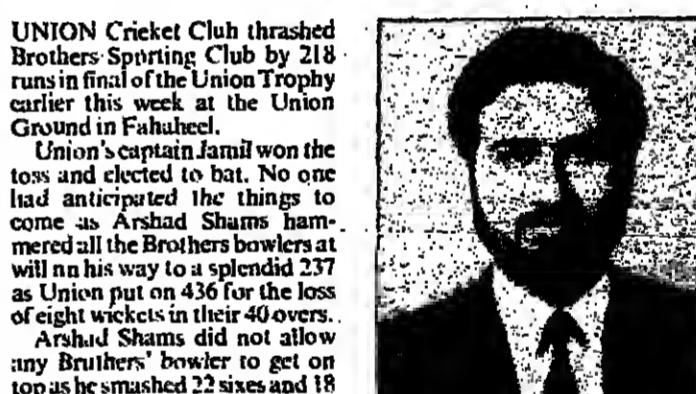
Moroccan Aouita is the world record holder over 1,500 metres. Somalian Bile, last year's Dream Mile winner, is the world 1,500 metres champion while Briton Elliott is the Commonwealth 1,500-champion.

Hansen said American Randy Barnes, who broke the world shot put record 10 days ago, had confirmed that he would take part.

Arshad Shams



The winners, Union Cricket Club, with other officials



Brothers were never in the chase for runs after being set such a high total to score and could only manage 218 for the loss of eight wickets.

Ashgar was the top scorer with 57 while Sadiq scored 44, Manoj 35, Kamal 27 and Malik 16.

Farukh Butt, one of the organisers of the Union Cricket League, thanked all the participating teams for helping make the tournament a success.

He announced that the winners of the tournament, Union, would be keeping the trophy and that a new one would be introduced for future tournaments.

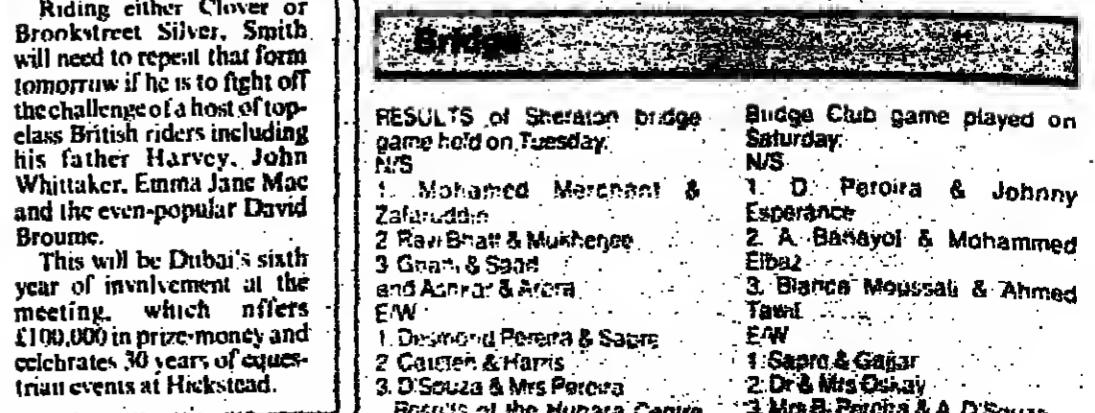
Mohammed Saeed Butt presented the prizes to all the players after the match. He presented the winner's trophy to Jamil Khan. He also praised the standard of the game.

Arshad Shams deservedly took the Man of the Match award.



Espinosa retains title

Challenger Harry Sneed (left) of the United States takes a right hook from Luisito Espinosa of the Philippines during their World Boxing Association bantamweight title match in Bangkok yesterday. Espinosa retained his title when Sneed retired in the ninth round. (Reuters wirephoto)



RESULTS of Sheraton bridge game held on Saturday.

N/S

1. D. Perera & Johnny Esperance

2. A. Barayoi & Mohammed Elbaiz

3. Blanca Mousali & Ahmed Yassini

EW

1. Desmond Perera & Sagre

2. Caesar & Harris

3. D'Souza & Mrs Perera

Results of the Hubara Centre

Smith aims for double in Emirates Cup



Robert Smith, on Brookstreet Boysie, on his way to victory in the 1988 Emirates Cup.



BRITAIN'S leading show-jumpers will face a strong international challenge when they enter the arena at the All England Jumping Course at Hickstead tomorrow for the Emirates Airline Cup, the richest Grand Prix event in Europe.

Sponsored by Emirates, the British Grand Prix has attracted several of the world's top riders and, with record prize-money totalling £60,000, it is one of the highlights of the prestigious four-day meeting.

Important On Sunday (June 3), the other big event at this week's meeting, the Dubai-sponsored Nations Cup, will bring one of Europe's most important equestrian events to a climax with an international competition between Britain, France, Germany, Switzerland and Ireland.

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ing, which opens today, are New Zealand's brilliant Mark Todd, American rider Jane Carter and Herve Godignon and Eric Lavallois of France. A

strong German entry is also

expected, including 1988 Dubai Cup winner Ludger Beerbaum.

But it is the British contingent which is tipped to

provide the strongest

challenge with Robert

Smith, son of the famous

Harvey and winner of the

1989 Dubai Cup, a popular

choice to win his second

international title.

This will be Dubai's sixth

year of involvement at the

meeting, which offers

£10

SPORTS

Protest at Cup deaths planned

ROME, May 30. (Reuters): Environmental groups said yesterday they would stage a protest to coincide with tomorrow's inauguration of Rome's World Cup soccer stadium to draw attention to those killed during advance building work.

"We wish to show world opinion the true face of Rome with its problems and its disregard for basic rights," a spokeswoman for the groups said.

"She said the protest would include forming a human chain around the stadium and laying a commemorative stone to the 24 laborers who died during World Cup construction work."

It would also draw attention to the large-scale financial speculation and disregard for the environment which protesters say went unnoticed in the race to meet World Cup deadlines.

Officials on the committee organising the protest include representatives from Italy's Green Party, friends of the earth, trade unions and local housing and urban renewal organisations.

The World Cup finals open in Milan on June 8 when holders Argentina play Cameroon. Tomorrow Pope John Paul will inaugurate and bless the rebuilt Olympic Stadium where the final will be held on July 8.

Overall World Cup organiser Luca Di Minnuzi and Italian Soccer Federation chief Antonio Matarress said last month they supported a proposal by trade unions to observe a minute's silence for the dead labourers before the tournament started.

Italian unions have revoked a no-strike agreement for the duration of the World Cup because of the deaths.

Deported

Two English World Cup soccer fans ordered to be deported from Italy for fighting police have been set free because of a judicial huddle, police said yesterday.

Two Liverpool fans were served last week with an expulsion order and given a six-month suspended sentence by a court in Palermo, north of Rome.

But a spokesman for paramilitary Carabinieri police said the 23-year-olds were only asked to leave Italy and not escorted to the border.

He said the court had mistakenly sentenced them to be deported under a law which was abrogated in February. He said police did not know where the fans were now.

The two had been convinced of resisting arrest, kicking and punching railway police and harassing passengers on a train.

Police said they were both drunk at the time.

England, concerned about the danger of violence by its fans during the month-long World Cup beginning on June 8, has appealed to Italy to take court proceedings against hooligans so they can be deported and banned from travelling abroad.

Cameroun picks strong defence

YAOUNDE, May 30. (Reuters): Cameroun have named their 22-man squad for the World Cup soccer finals in Italy.

The squad contains few surprises with Stephen Tataw, veteran Emmanuel Kunde and Bordeaux goalkeeper Joseph Antoine Bell forming a solid defence to a well-established line-up.

Soviet coach Valeri Nepomniachii has also picked forward Roger Milla, who bowed out of the national side after Cameroun's 1988 African Nations Cup victory in Morocco. Twelve of the squad, including Milla, are amateurs.

Rojas may seek psychiatric help

SANTIAGO, Chile, May 30. (AP): Soccer goalie Roberto Rojas said yesterday he may seek psychiatric evaluation for secretly cutting himself to halt a World Cup qualifying match that Chile was losing to Brazil.

"I think it may be necessary to have a specialist examine me," Rojas said, answering reporters' questions while taping a television programme.

A reporter had asked him if he thought he was normal, or if he suspected he needed psychiatric treatment. "I'm not sure I know what normal is," Rojas said.

It was his first appearance since confessing on Saturday, in published interviews, that he sliced his own forehead with a scalpel at one minute, 49 seconds of the Sept. 3 match in Rio de Janeiro's massive Maracana Stadium. He pretended to have been hit by a flare that landed near him on the playing field.

Brazil was winning 1-0 at the time, and the Chileans walked off the field. Videotapes and other evidence showed Rojas was not hit, however, and Brazil was granted the victory and a spot in this year's World Cup in Rome anyway.

Suspecting that Rojas had cheated, the international soccer federation banned him for life from professional play. Chilean fullback Fernando Astengo and coach Orlando Aravena were suspended for five years. Chile was banned from the 1994 World Cup in the United States.

Rojas' encounter with the press was tense, with some Chilean reporters insulting questions.

Rojas: not sure what normal is

Bulls, Pistons ready for 5th game

Trail Blazers take 3-2 lead



Johnson: positive attitude

PORLAND, Oregon, May 30, (AP): Clyde Drexler emerged from a playoff shooting slump to score 32 points and the Portland Trail Blazers beat the Phoenix Suns 120-114 last night for a 3-2 lead in the Western Conference finals.

The Blazers, who increased their homecourt record to 9-0 in the playoffs, could advance to the National Basketball Association championship series for the first time in 13 years if they win tomorrow night in Phoenix.

Phoenix, which lost for the 20th straight time in Portland, trailed by as many as 12 points in the first half before rallying to take a 106-101 lead with 6:23 left. A four-point play — a 3-pointer by Drexler and a free throw by Kevin Drexler on the play — helped bring Portland ahead with 2:34 left.

The Trail Blazers tied it 109-109 on a short jumper by Terry Porter with 4:59 to go. Phoenix had four chances to regain the lead before Jerome Kersey's two free throws put Portland ahead with 2:34 left.

After Kevin Johnson's missed shot, Drexler's Dunk on a fastbreak made it 113-109 with 2:30 to play.

Mark West made one of two free throws with 1:53 to go before Dan Majerle scored inside to make it 113-112 with 1:16 left.

Buck Williams missed a shot for Portland before Tom Chambers made two free throws for a 114-113 Phoenix lead with 47 seconds to play.

The Trail Blazers regained the lead when Drexler was fouled by Majerle and made both free throws.

After Majerle missed a shot for Phoenix, Jeff Hornacek grabbed the rebound, but lost the ball in a scramble. Williams was fouled on the play and gave Portland a 117-114 lead with 15 seconds left.

Hornacek missed a 3-pointer with six seconds to go, Kersey got the rebound and made one of two free throws with 5.2 seconds

left. Drexler, shooting 40.5 per cent from the field for the playoffs, was 13-for-24 in game 5 and had 10 rebounds.

Kersey had 21 points and 11 rebounds and Porter scored 19.

Johnson had 28 points and 14 assists and Chambers 22 points and 13 rebounds for the Suns, but he was just 6-for-21 from the field.

Suddenly, the Chicago Bulls have become the "bad boys" and the Detroit Pistons are the ones playing the Eastern Conference finals.

The Bulls, bidding to become only the fifth NBA team to overcome a 2-0 deficit to win a best-of-7 series, pulled even at 2-2 with a pair of impressive victories over the weekend.

Now it's the Bulls talking tough, like Detroit used to, as they prepare for game 5 at the Palace here.

"We have the momentum and the confidence going into the Palace," the Bulls' Michael Jordan said. "We have to steal the game from them and win. We have a very positive attitude."

And you don't have to look very far to see where Chicago got all that confidence. It was in those hours of Detroit tapers the Bulls had to watch, trying to figure out how to stop the "Jordan rules" which the Pistons had used so effectively.

The Bulls decided the best way to beat the Pistons was to play like the Pistons. So the Bulls turned into bad boys.

"I told the guys before (game 4) they get six

fouls in the NBA: use every one of them," Bulls coach Phil Jackson said. "We didn't use all of them, but we let them know we came to play. If we keep up this intensity, one will be able to beat us."

Chicago had only one more personal foul than Detroit, 33-32 in the fourth game, but boxscores can be misleading. Seven of Detroit's fouls were intentional in the game's final minute. Free throws accounted for the Bulls' final 11 points.

Johnson fired

CINCINNATI, Ohio, May 30, (Reuters): The New York Mets, considered big underachievers the last two seasons, fired manager Davey Johnson and replaced him with coach Buddy Harrelson yesterday.

Vyacheslav Koloskov, president of the Soviet Football Federation, told Tass the main threat to the Soviet team would come from Italy, Brazil and the Netherlands.

The Soviet Union has been drawn in Group B for the opening round with holders Argentina, Cameroon and Romania — their first opponents on June 9 in Bari. (Reuters)

The international governing body Fifa forbids players from wearing objects that might injure others.

But Preud'Honneur has applied for permission to wear sunglasses, arguing that the traditional goalkeeper's cap will not protect him sufficiently from the sun when intercepting high balls.

Doctors said Fioegel, who last week ripped ligaments in his right ankle at his side's training camp in northern Italy, will probably be unable to play for at least six weeks. (UPI)

■ Midfielder Gerald Glatz-

mayer was named yesterday to replace injured newcomer Thomas Fioegel in Austria's 22-man squad for the 1990 World Cup finals in Italy.

Johnson, the first manager to be fired this year, has managed the Mets since 1984. He directed the team to a World Championship in 1986 and a National League East title in 1988.

The Mets made the announcement of Johnson's dismissal at a news conference in Cincinnati, where the Mets were scheduled to play last night.

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Johnson, the first manager to be fired this year, has managed the Mets since 1984. He directed the team to a World Championship in 1986 and a National League East title in 1988.

Lance Johnson scored the winning run with two out in the ninth inning on a wild pitch by Lance McCullers, giving the streaking Chicago White Sox a 5-4 victory over the hapless New York Yankees last night.

Chicago relief ace Bobby Thigpen (2-2) was the winner despite blowing a save for the third time in 18 opportunities.

The victory was the fourth

straight for the White Sox. The Yankees suffered their fourth straight defeat. The victory upset the White Sox' home record to 17-6, best in the Majors.

Red Sox 2, Rangers 1

The Texas Rangers suffered a club record ninth consecutive home loss last night, failing to the Boston Red Sox 2-1 as Roger Clemens scattered seven hits in eight innings and Carlos Quintana doubled home the winning run with two out in the eighth.

Clemens (8-2) struck out eight and walked two in winning his fourth consecutive start. He boosted his American League-leading strikeout total to 69. Jeff Reardon pitched the ninth for his fifth save.

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Athletics

Lewis may not compete in Seattle

DURHAM, North Carolina, May 30. (Reuters) Six-time Olympic champion Carl Lewis indicated yesterday he probably would not compete in the Goodwill Games in Seattle this summer.

"I would like to come to the Goodwill Games but it is not a necessity," Lewis told Reuters.

Lewis also said that his first race of the 1990 season would be a 400-metre relay in the Minneapolis area on June 23.

Lewis' status for the July meeting in Seattle is uncertain because of his plans not to compete in next month's US National Championships.

The Athletics Congress, the sport's US governing body, passed a rule last year requiring US athletes to participate in the US Championships to be eligible for the Goodwill Games.

Challenge

But Lewis, who did not train for six months earlier this year while working on his autobiography, said he would not be ready to challenge other US sprinters.

"I said I was not going to run an olympic," said Lewis, who is attending the US Collegiate Championships this week.

Asked about the possibility of running a relay race at the US Championships to qualify for the Goodwill Games, Lewis said he was open to the suggestion but not yet decided had been made.

Traditionally, the US Championships do not include relay races for men.

Robin Smith hits 51 off 39 balls Hampshire beat Yorkshire

LONDON, May 30. (Reuters) England batsman Robin Smith and West Indies paceman Malcolm Marshall lashed 68 in 12 overs to fire Hampshire to a five-wicket victory over Yorkshire in the English County Cricket Championship today.

Hampshire needed 215 in a minimum of 46 overs on the third and final day and reached the target with seven balls to spare, a result that meant Yorkshire have now lost all four of their championship games.

The victory at Headingley lifted Hampshire to third in the table, four points behind joint leaders Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire, who drew their top-of-the-table match on Monday.

Hampshire's win was set up by West Indian-born pace bowler Cardigan Connor, who had a burst of three wickets in 19 balls and ended with five for 96 as Yorkshire, 37 behind on first innings, were all out for 251.

Opener Chris Smith, dropped twice, paved the way for Hampshire by hitting 58 while his brother, Rohin, struck an unbeaten 51 from 39 balls and shared the crucial stand with Marshall (28).

Middlesex snatched a 10-run win over bottom-of-the-table Gloucestershire in a bizarre finish at Lord's.

Scots get off to flying start

GISBORNE, New Zealand, May 30. (Reuters) Scotland made a flying start to their rugby union tour of New Zealand today with a 45-0 win over a combined Poverty Bay-East Coast side.

The Scots ran in eight tries after their forwards had set up a solid platform in the first half.

But the win lacked the conviction expected from the Five Nations champions. At halftime they led the Third Division side by a relatively modest 15-0 with tries to number eight Graham Marshall and

scrumhalf Greg Oliver.

However, Lions skipper Finlay Calder, who took over as captain after David Sole left the field late in the game, was in outstanding form.

In the second half fullback Peter Dods, who also kicked five conversions and a penalty, scored a try.

The other tries went to Marshall, his second of the day, hooker Ken Milne, New Zealand-born centre Sean Lineen, flyhalf Craig Chalmers and blindside flanker Derek Turnbull.

Set 372 for victory, Gloucestershire sustained their bid until the eighth wicket fell when they were 40 short with 21 balls left.

But Middlesex then gave away runs in an attempt to maintain their opponents' interest and at the same time take the last two wickets.

The tactics paid off as Gloucestershire lost their last two wickets while still chasing the target and Middlesex won with two balls left, former England off-spinner John Emburey and fellow slow bowler Phil Tufnel each taking four wickets.

Results

At Colwyn Bay: Glamorgan v Lancashire match abandoned. Glamorgan 205 in 67 overs and 203 for three when rain stopped play (L. Smith 112 not out, A. Butcher 66 not out). Lancashire 399 for seven declared in 100 overs. Laoeashire 8 points Glamorgan 5.

At Edgbaston: Warwickshire v Worcestershire match abandoned. Warwickshire 295 for eight declared in 102 overs and 201 for eight declared (A. Moles 56, D. Rees 49 not out, P. Booth 43). Worcestershire 253 for eight declared in 110.5 overs and 106 for one (T. Curtis 47 not out) — rain stopped play. Warwickshire 6 points Worcestershire 5.

At Leicester: Leicestershire v Somerset match drawn. Leicestershire 352 for four declared in 110 overs and 200 for nine

declared (G. Rose five for 52). Somerset 300 for five declared in 91.1 overs and 62 for one. Leicestershire 6 points Somerset 5.

At Lord's: Middlesex beat Gloucestershire by 10 runs. Middlesex 301 for seven declared in 97.4 overs and 230 for six declared (K. Brown 60, N. Williams 50 not out). Gloucestershire 260 for four declared in 106 overs and 261 (W. Athey 69, K. Curran 53 not out, J. Emburey four for 69, P. Tufnel four for 111). Middlesex 21 points Gloucestershire 6.

At Headingly: Hampshire beat Yorkshire by five wickets. Yorkshire 300 for eight declared in 99.5 overs and 251 (C. Pickles 57 not out, C. Connor five for 96). Hampshire 337 for seven declared in 92.4 overs and 215 for five (C. Smith 38, R. Smith 51 not out). Hampshire 23 points Yorkshire 21.

Standings

Derbyshire	6	3	1	2	20	13	81
Notts	6	3	1	2	16	17	81
Warwickshire	5	3	0	2	17	12	77
Northants	4	2	0	2	14	10	66
Middlesex	5	1	0	4	17	15	48
Kent	4	2	2	0	11	4	47
Somerset	5	1	1	3	19	11	46
Glamorgan	6	1	2	3	15	15	46
Northants	5	1	1	3	17	10	43
Essex	4	1	3	0	12	14	43
Worcester	4	1	1	3	12	9	37
Sussex	5	1	2	2	13	5	34
Yorkshire	4	0	4	0	10	11	21
Surrey	4	0	1	3	13	6	21
Gloucester	3	0	3	0	5	10	15

**Title fight**

A section of the crowd throw chairs at British boxer Derek Williams' cornerman during the 12th and final round of the European heavyweight title fight. Jean-Maurice Chanel defeated Williams on points to take the bout. The fight was interrupted for 10 minutes and several people were slightly injured. (Reuters wirephoto)

US rowers get chance to exhibit their mettle

Drug testing to cost over \$1m

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colorado, May 30. (AP) The same US rowing team forced to miss the 1980 Olympics to Moscow because of the United States-led boycott will have a chance to find out what might have been. Crew members will be in Moscow next month to row against the same Russian eight they would have raced if then President Jimmy Carter hadn't ordered the boycott.

The US team included Charles Altekrause, who was captain of the unbeaten Harvard eight-oar crew of 1976-80.

Altekrause, who now works for a high-tech firm in San Jose and lives in Atherton, says he has always wondered how he and the other Americans would have done against the Soviets.

"We had been together only a week when we raced the East German team at Lucerne, Switzerland," he said. "They beat us, but by less than a length."

The East Germans, who had been unbeaten for four years, went on to capture the Olympics. Great Britain was second and the Russians third. "We beat Great Britain at Lucerne so the Soviet crew was the only one that placed in the Olympics that we hadn't faced," said Bruce Roberson, who has been instrumental in organizing the challenge race.

"I've been spending a lot of time getting permission from different bodies and getting my own body in shape," said Ibberson, 37.

Both the Soviet and US teams are intact according to US team manager Charles Colgan.

The USOC said yesterday that the testing will be done at 197 sites, including most domestic competitions, in addition to the US Olympic Festival and the Goodwill Games. It said about \$842,000 of the \$1 million will be designated specifically for testing during competition and at training sites.

ITS: HIGH TECH FOR RETAIL AUTOMATION

INTERNATIONAL TURNKEY SYSTEMS (ITS) has concluded an exclusive distributorship agreement in Kuwait, and non-exclusive in GCC countries, with PINPOINT RETAIL SYSTEMS OF TORONTO, CANADA for their high-end Electronic Cash Registers ECR/EPOS.

RETAIL System market is currently developing in the Middle East and ITS has committed extensive resources to develop the bilingual solutions and expertise to become a major supplier Gulf-wide through its offices in Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and the U.A.E. ITS specializes in providing high-tech turnkey integrated retail business solutions for today's market requirements and has developed considerable skills to support the solutions at all levels locally.

The agreement with PINPOINT enhances ITS's product line and brings state-of-the-art technology to the area. It is a very flexible machine compared to other ECR/EPOS systems in the market. ITS is fully equipped to modify the software as per customer requirements and provides a transparent link to comprehensive software modules called STREETWISE (Inventory Management) and UTOPIA (Accounting) to completely automate medium to large size retailers.

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